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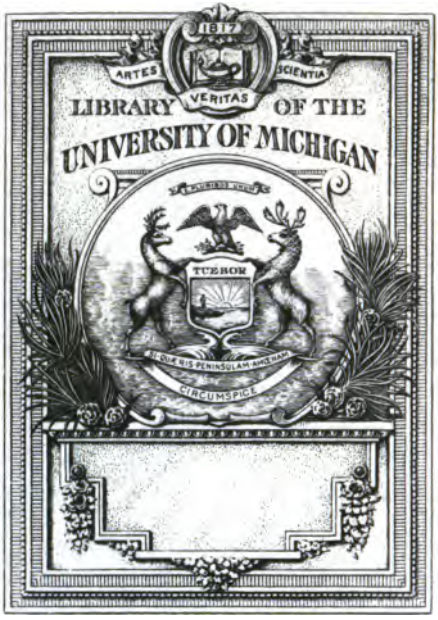

GIFT OF THE HEIRS OF
WILLIAM HENRY WAIT, PH.D.

878
P4
D76
1894

778
P4
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S74

SELECTED FABLES

OF

PHAEDRUS

WITH INDICATED QUANTITIES

EDITED FOR READING AT SIGHT

BY

JOSEPH H. DRAKE

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Boston

ALLYN AND BACON

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PREFACE

THIS selection of fables has been prepared for use in reading ıtin aloud and, its natural concomitant, reading without a ctionary. The quantities have been marked rather than the ːcents, in the belief that better results in reading aloud can be ached by observing carefully the length of the vowels, than r attempting to follow mechanically the rhythm of the verse. ɔr the same practical reason, it is suggested that the teacher llow Lucian Mueller's theory of the structure of the Latin ːrse,[1] remembering that the *principle of quantity* was the only ıe taken into account, and that the prose accent was neglected the reading of poetry. Whatever may be said for or against is theory from the scientific point of view, it seems to furnish e best pedagogical solution of the much discussed problem of e relation of metrical ictus and prose accent.

The few notes given with the text are such as I have und by actual trial had to be supplied to a class, composed ainly of sophomores and juniors in the University of Michigan, ho had prepared their lessons without the aid of a lexicon or ıcabulary. From the fact that the Latin is so simple, the book ay be made useful in the high school course, by substituting it r some part of the regular work. The marked quantities will ake easy the drill in reading aloud, so often neglected, in our gh schools, much to the detriment of the pupils.

[1] See L. Mueller, 'Metrik d. Griechen u. Römer,' Erster Abschnitt, § 1, p. 37 of S. B. Platner's Translation, Allyn & Bacon, Boston, 1892.

In my Introduction I am indebted to W. G. Rutherford's 'Babrius'; to the school editions of Phaedrus by Siebelis and Raschig, though I am compelled to differ with the latter in some of his conclusions (see note to p. xiii); to Lucian Mueller's 'Phaedri Fabulae Aesopiae,' praefatio, p. viii–xii; and to P. Langen, 'Ueber die Metrik des Phaedrus,' Rhein. Mus. xxiii, 197–208. The text is Lucian Mueller's, Bonn, 1867, though the orthography has been made consistent throughout. Except in case of obvious misprints, Lewis's 'Elementary Latin Dictionary' has been followed in marking the quantities.

For aid in reading the proof, and for many helpful suggestions, my thanks are due to Professor John C. Rolfe and Mr. C. L. Meader, of the University of Michigan, also to Professor W. K. Clement, of the University of Idaho.

JOSEPH H. DRAKE.

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN,
January 1, 1894.

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INTRODUCTION

THE Greeks referred the fables commonly current among them to Aesop, who was believed to have lived about the middle of the sixth century before Christ. The first mention of him in Greek literature (Herodotus II, 134, 135) indicates that in the time of the historian little was known about Aesop's personality. Herodotus says that the grandson of Iadmon of Samos claimed the money offered by the Delphians as indemnity for the death of Aesop. According to later versions of the tradition to which Herodotus here refers, Aesop having been freed by his master, Iadmon of Samos, was sent by Croesus to Delphi with four minae for each one of the inhabitants of that city. But he quarreled with the citizens about the distribution of the gift and was killed by them. Plagues having been sent upon the Delphians because of their crime, they were told by the oracle to offer an indemnity for the murder of the fabulist, which, Herodotus tells us, was claimed by the grandson of Aesop's former master. The later stories concerning the excessive ugliness of Aesop are supposed to have arisen from a false derivation of his name from αἰσχρός and ὤψ.

As there is so little known about Aesop, and so much told that is evidently false, many have thought that his actual existence was a myth; and that the fables, like the sagas of the North, were a slow growth in the history of literature, which gradually came to be attributed to an individual who never really existed. Certainly many of the fables ascribed to Aesop could never have been written by him; though this does not prove that there was not such a writer of fables in existence in the sixth century

before Christ. Those fables that show internal evidence of not having been written by him may be explained as interpolations of a later time. Certain it is that by the close of the fifth century before Christ, Aesop was firmly established as the 'patron saint of fable' among the Greeks. For a full discussion of this question, see Welcker, 'Aesop eine Fabel,' in Kl. Schr. II, 228 ff., cited by von Christ in Iwan Müller's 'Handbuch der Klassischen Altertumswissenschaft,' VII, S. 122; and, particularly, W. G. Rutherford's 'Babrius,' Introduction, Chap. II, 'The History of Greek Fable.'

The original version of the fables of Aesop was in prose. Socrates is said to have turned some of these into elegiac verse during his imprisonment. Demetrius of Phaleron arranged a collection of Aesop's fables in prose, which was afterward followed by other Greek fabulists. These prose fables have not come down to our times, but are known to us through the poetical versions of Phaedrus, Babrius, and Avianus. The several versions in prose now extant are a product of later times.

Phaedrus, who introduced the fables of Aesop into Latin literature in metrical form, is mentioned once by Martial (Epig. III, 20, 5); by other contemporary authors, not at all. We must, therefore, depend for our knowledge of his life and character, upon what he himself tells us in the prologues and epilogues to the several books of his fables. Born in Pieria in Macedonia, he came to Rome as a slave, early in life, received his freedom from Augustus or Tiberius, and during the reign of the latter, published the first two books of his fables. The third book was dedicated to a freedman of Gaius Caesar or Claudius, Eutychus by name; the fourth to Particulo, a favorite of Claudius. The fifth book was published later in its author's life, which seems to have been prolonged to a great age.

From the title of his work, 'Phaedri Augusti Liberti Fabularum Aesopiarum Libri,' there is some reason for the difference of opinion that exists as to the identity of his *patronus*, though it is very probable that the Augustus referred to is Octavianus, since Tiberius is usually called Caesar Tiberius, and not Augus-

tus. To explain the long silence of the poet between Book II and Book III, it has been surmised that Sejanus, prime minister of Tiberius, was made angry by something in the first two books. It may have been by the very pertinent application of the moral of Fable VI, in Book I, to the matrimonial designs of this imperial favorite upon Livia, wife of Drusus, the son of Tiberius. Whatever may have been the cause, the literary activity of Phaedrus was completely repressed until after the death of Sejanus and his imperial master.

In the Prologue to Book I, Phaedrus modestly says that he simply aims to transfer the fables of Aesop into Latin verse for the double purpose of amusing and instructing his readers, but in the second book he begins to incorporate matter of his own[1] with that of his Greek model, and in the following books this tendency is still more strongly marked. Many of these additions are to be classed as anecdotes, rather than as fables in the strict sense of that term. About one-third of the fables are manifestly Greek in origin, and as many more may have been drawn from Greek sources not now accessible. But there remains still a considerable number that are distinctively Roman.

We have the direct testimony of Avianus,[2] who lived in the fourth century, that Phaedrus published only five books of fables, but in most editions we find other fables added, either as a sixth book or as an appendix. The reason for this is as follows: In the fifteenth century, Niccolo Perotti, — late in life archbishop of Siponto, — when a young man, made a collection of fables for the benefit of his nephew. In this collection, along with a number of fables found in the five books of Phaedrus, are thirty in the same meter as those of Phaedrus, though, according to

[1] See II, 5.

[2] Avianus, *epist. ad Theodos.*

Verum has pro exemplo fabulas et Socrates divinis operibus indidit et poematis suis Flaccus aptavit, quod in se sub iocorum communium specie vitae argumenta contineant. Quod Graecis iambis Babrius repetens in duo volumina coartavit, Phaedrus etiam partem aliquam quinque in libellos resolvit.

some critics, differing in style. Now Book II and Book V the regular text are much shorter than the others, and in Prologue to Book I the author apologizes for allowing trees talk in his fables, an apology that seems unnecessary, since th is no instance of such an occurrence in the collection that have. Furthermore, Fables XIII and XIV of Book IV manifestly incomplete. From these facts, it is believed that the manuscript to which Perotti had access in making his coll tion, there were fables which have not come down to us throu other channels, and in modern editions of Phaedrus these fab are usually added to thé five books that are known to belong this author.

The anticipation of posthumous fame so naïvely expressed Phaedrus has not been realized to the extent that the autl hoped, though he might, if living, be content with the reputati of being the only Latin fabulist of the classic period. His fau as well as his virtues are those of a little mind. His lack judgment and failure to see clearly the true meaning of t fables, shown particularly in their application and their unskill variations from the Greek originals, are not less marked th the clearness with which he brings situations before his reade and the finish in form of some of his fables.

His verse is iambic trimeter or senarius of the form

$$\cup - \cup - \cup - \cup - \cup - \cup \underline{\cup}$$

The last foot is always an iambus or pyrrhic. In the other fe we may have, instead of an iambus: —

(1) The spondee (_ _), most commonly in the fifth foot.

(2) The anapaest ($\cup \cup -$), particularly in the first and fi foot, never two in succession.

(3) The dactyl ($- \cup \cup$), oftenest in the first, third, a fourth foot.

(4) The tribrach ($\cup \cup \cup$), never in such a position that word ends with it.

(5) The proceleusmaticus ($\cup \cup \cup \cup$), only at the beginni of a verse.

The dactyl and the tribrach rarely[1] occur with a following anapaest or a tribrach, the proceleusmaticus never.

The caesura usually falls in the third foot, sometimes in the fourth.

The following peculiarities in the prosody of Phaedrus should be kept in mind: —

dein is always a monosyllable.

deinde is always a dissyllable.

diutius, not *diūtius*, is regularly used.

ērunt in the perfect is often *erunt*.

illius I, 14, 8, but *illīus* III, Prol. 38.

substantives in *ius* and *ium* sometimes retain and sometimes drop the second *i* in the genitive singular.

mehercule and *meherculēs* are always trisyllables, pronounced *mērcule* and *mērculēs*.

mīluus is always a trisyllable.

nēsciō is sometimes a dissyllable.

quoniam is always a trisyllable.

Other variations peculiar to the passages in which they occur are mentioned in the notes.

It is taken for granted that the student knows that final *i* in *mihi*, *tibi*, *sibi*, and *ubi*, which is commonly short, may sometimes be long, and that final *o* of the first person singular of the verb, commonly long, may sometimes be short.

[1] Raschig says never, but see I, 8, 6; I, 11, 13; I, 12, 14; II, Prol. 9; IV, 5, 35; IV, 24, 9; V, Poeta 5; Ap. XXX, 12; Epilogue 2.

PHAEDRĪ AUGUSTĪ LĪBĒRTĪ

FĀBULĀRUM AESŌPĪĀRUM

LIBER PRĪMUS.

Prōlogus.

Aesōpus auctor quam māteriam repperit,
Hanc ego polīvī versibus sēnāriīs.
Duplex libellī dōs est: quod rīsum movet
Et quod prūdentī vītam cōnsiliō monet.
Calumniārī sī quis autem voluerit,
Quod arborēs loquantur, nōn tantum ferae,
Fictīs iocārī nōs meminerit fābulīs.

I. *Lupus et Āgnus.*

Ad rīvum eundem lupus et āgnus vēnerant
Sitī compulsī; superior stābat lupus
Longēque īnferior āgnus. Tunc fauce improbā
Latrō incitātus iūrgiī causam intulit.
'Cūr,' inquit, 'turbulentam fēcistī mihi
Aquam bibentī?' Lāniger contrā timēns:
'Quī possum, quaesō, facere, quod quereris, lupe?
A tē dēcurrit ad meōs haustūs liquor.'

3. *dōs:* 'value.'
I, 3. *fauce:* 'appetite.'
8. *meōs haustūs:* 'the place where I drink.'

Repulsus ille vēritātis vīribus:
'Ante hōs sex mēnsēs male,' ait, 'dīxistī mihi.'
Respondit āgnus: 'Equidem nātus nōn eram.'
'Pater, hercle, tuus ibi,' inquit, 'male dīxit mihi.'
Atque ita correptum lacerat iniūstā nece.

Haec propter illōs scrīpta est hominēs fābula,
Quī fictīs causīs innocentēs opprimunt.

II. *Rānae Rēgem Petiērunt.*

Athēnae cum flōrērent aequīs lēgibus,
Procāx lībertās cīvitātem miscuit
Frēnumque solvit prīstinum licentia.
Hīc cōnspīrātīs factiōnum partibus
Arcem tyrannus occupat Pīsistratus.
Cum trīstem servitūtem flērent Atticī,
— Nōn quia crūdēlis ille, sed quoniam grave
Omne īnsuētīs onus — et coepissent querī,
Aesōpus tālem tum fābellam rettulit.

Rānae vagantēs līberīs palūdibus
Clāmōre māgnō rēgem petiēre ā Iove,
Quī dissolūtōs mōrēs vī compēsceret.
Pater deōrum rīsit atque illīs dedit
Parvum tigillum, mīssum quod subitō vadī
Mōtū sonōque terruit pavidum genus.
Hōc mersum līmō cum iacēret diutius,
Fōrte ūna tacitē prōfert ē stāgnō caput
Et explōrātō rēge cūnctās ēvocat.
Illae timōre positō certātim adnatant

II, 4. *cōnspīrātīs factiōnum paritbus:* 'through conspiracy of factions.'

14. *tigillum:* 'log.'

16. *diutius:* not *diūtius.*

Lignumque suprā turba petulāns īnsilit.
Quod cum inquinässent omnī contumēliā,
Alium rogantēs rēgem mīsēre ad Iovem,
Inūtilis quoniam esset quī fuerat datus.
Tum mīsit illīs hydrum, quī dente asperō
Corripere coepit singulās. Frūstrā necem
Fugitant inertēs, vōcem praeclūdit metus.
Fūrtim igitur dant Mercuriō mandāta ad Iovem,
Adflictīs ut succurrat. Tunc contrā deus:
'Quia nōluistis vestrum ferre,' inquit, 'bonum,
Malum perferte.' — 'Vōs quoque, ō cīvēs,' ait,
'Hōc sustinēte, māius nē veniat malum.'

III. *Grāculus Superbus et Pāvō.*

Nē glōriārī libeat aliēnīs bonīs
Suōque potius habitū vītam dēgere,
Aesōpus nōbīs hōc exemplum prōdidit.
Tumēns inānī grāculus superbiā,
Pennās pāvōnī quae dēciderant sustulit
Sēque exōrnāvit. Deinde contemnēns suōs
Sē immiscuit pāvōnum fōrmōsō gregī.
Illī impudentī pennās ēripiunt avī
Fugantque rōstrīs. Male mulcātus grāculus
Redīre maerēns coepit ad proprium genus;
Ā quō repulsus trīstem sustinuit notam.
Tum quīdam ex illīs, quōs prius dēspēxerat:
'Contentus nostrīs sī fuissēs sēdibus
Et quod nātūra dederat voluissēs patī,

21. *inquinässent:* 'befouled.'
III. *grāculus:* 'jackdaw.'
2. *que* in *suōque:* 'but.'
11. *notam:* 'disgrace.'

Nec illam expertus essēs contumēliam
Nec hanc repulsam tua sentīret calamitās.'

IV. *Canis per Fluvium Carnem Ferēns.*

Āmittit meritō proprium quī aliēnum adpetit.
Canis per flūmen carnem dum ferret natāns,
Lymphārum in speculō vīdit simulācrum suum,
Aliamque praedam ab alterō ferrī putāns
Ēripere voluit; vērum dēcepta aviditās
Et quem tenēbat ōre dīmīsit cibum,
Nec quem petēbat potuit adeō attingere.

V. *Vacca, Capella, Ovis et Leō.*

Numquam est fidēlis cum potente societās;
Testātur haec fābella prōpositum meum.
Vacca et capella et patiēns ovis iniūriae
Sociī fuēre cum leōne in saltibus.
Hī cum cēpissent cervum vāstī corporis.
Sīc est locūtus partibus factīs leō:
'Ego prīmam tollō, nōminor quoniam leō;
Secundam, quia sum fortis, tribuētis mihi;
Tum, quia plūs valeō, mē sequētur tertia;
Malō adficiētur, sī quis quartam tetigerit.'
Sīc tōtam praedam sōla improbitās abstulit.

VI. *Rānae ad Sōlem.*

Vīcīnī fūris celebrēs vīdit nūptiās
Aesōpus et continuō nārrāre incipit:

16. *calamitās:* abstract used for concrete, a usage common with Phæ

"Uxōrem quondam Sōl cum vellet dūcere,
Clāmōrem rānae sustulēre ad sīdera.
Convīciō permōtus quaerit Iuppiter
Causam querellae. Quaedam tum stāgnī incola:
'Nunc,' inquit, 'omnēs ūnus exūrit lacūs
Cōgitque miserās āridā sēde ēmorī,
Quidnam futūrum est, sī creārit līberōs?'"

VII. *Volpēs ad Persōnam Tragicam.*

Persōnam tragicam fōrte volpēs vīderat:
'Ō quanta speciēs,' inquit, 'cerebrum nōn habet!'
Hōc illīs dictum est, quibus honōrem et glōriam
Fōrtūna tribuit, sēnsum commūnem abstulit.

VIII. *Lupus et Gruis.*

Quī pretium meritī ab improbīs dēsīderat,
Bis peccat: prīmum quoniam indignōs adiuvat;
Impūne abīre deinde quia iam nōn potest.
Os dēvorātum fauce cum haerēret lupī,
Māgnō dolōre vīctus coepit singulōs
Inlicere pretiō, ut illud extraherent malum.
Tandem persuāsa est iūre iūrandō gruis,
Gulaeque crēdēns collī longitūdinem,
Perīculōsam fēcit medicīnam lupō.
Ā quō cum pactum flāgitāret praemium:
'Ingrāta es,' inquit, 'ōre quae ē nostrō caput
Incolume abstuleris et mercēdem postulēs.'

VIII, 8. *gulae:* 'throat.'

IX. *Passer ad Leporem Cōnsiliātor.*

Sibi nōn cavēre et aliīs cōnsilium dare
Stultum esse paucīs ostendāmus versibus.
Oppressum ab aquilā et flētūs ēdentem gravēs
Leporem obiūrgābat passer: 'Ubi pernīcitās
Nōta,' inquit, 'illa est? Quid ita cessārunt pedēs?'
Dum loquitur, ipsum accipiter necopīnum rapit
Questūque vānō clāmitantem interficit.
Lepus sēmanimus: 'Mortis ēn sōlācium!
Quī modo sēcūrus nostra inrīdēbās mala,
Similī querellā fāta dēplōrās tua.'

X. *Lupus et Volpēs Iūdice Sīmiō.*

Quīcumque turpī fraude semel innōtuit,
Etiam sī vērum dīcit, āmittit fidem.
Hōc attestātur brevis Aesōpī fābula.
Lupus arguēbat volpem fūrtī crīmine;
Negābat illa sē esse culpae proximam.
Tunc iūdex inter illōs sēdit sīmius.
Uterque causam cum perōrāssent suam,
Dīxisse fertur sīmius sententiam:
'Tū nōn vidēris perdidisse quod petis;
Tē crēdō subripuisse quod pulchrē negās.'

XI. *Asinus et Leō Vēnantēs.*

Virtūtis expers verbīs iactāns glōriam
Īgnōtōs fallit, nōtīs est dērīsuī.
Vēnārī asellō comite cum vellet leō,

X, 1. *innōtuit:* 'has become known,' 'has got a reputation.'

Contēxit illum frutice et admonuit simul,
Ut īnsuētā vōce terrēret ferās,
Fugientēs ipse exciperet. Hīc aurītulus
Clāmōrem subitō tōtīs tollit vīribus
Novōque turbat bēstiās mīrāculō.
Quae dum paventēs exitūs nōtōs petunt,
Leōnis adflīguntur horrendō impetū.
Quī postquam caede fessus est, asinum ēvocat
Iubetque vōcem premere. Tunc ille īnsolēns:
'Quālis vidētur opera tibi vōcis meae?'
'Īnsignis,' inquit, 'sīc ut, nisi nōssem tuum
Animum genusque, similī fūgissem metū.'

XII. *Cervus ad Fōntem.*

Laudātīs ūtiliōra, quae contempseris,
Saepe invenīrī haec asserit nārrātiō.
Ad fōntem cervus, cum bibisset, restitit
Et in liquōre vīdit effigiem suam.
Ibi dum rāmōsa mīrāns laudat cornua
Crūrumque nimiam tenuitātem vituperat,
Vēnantum subitō vōcibus conterritus
Per campum fugere coepit et cursū levī
Canēs ēlūsit. Silva tum excēpit ferum,
In quā retentīs impedītus cornibus
Lacerārī coepit morsibus saevīs canum.
Tunc moriēns vōcem hanc ēdidisse dīcitur:
'Ō mē īnfēlīcem! quī nunc dēmum intellegō,
Ūtilia mihi quam fuerint, quae dēspēxeram,
Et, quae laudāram, quantum lūctūs habuerint.'

XI, 4. *frutice:* 'bush.'
13. *opera:* 'effect,' 'service.'

XIII. *Volpēs et Corvus.*

Quī sē laudārī gaudet verbīs subdolīs,
Sērā dat poenās turpēs paenitentiā.
Cum dē fenēstrā corvus raptum cāseum
Comēsse vellet, celsā resīdēns arbore,
Volpēs hunc vīdit, deinde sīc coepit loquī:
'Ō quī tuārum, corve, pennārum est nitor!
Quantum decōris corpore et vultū geris!
Sī vōcem habērēs, nūlla prior āles foret.'
At ille stultus, dum vult vōcem ostendere,
Ēmīsit ōre cāseum, quem celeriter
Dolōsa volpēs avidīs rapuit dentibus.
Tum dēmum ingemuit corvī dēceptus stupor.
[Hāc rē probātur quantum ingenium valet;
Virtūte semper praevalet sapientia.]

XIV. *Ex Sūtōre Medicus.*

Malus cum sūtor inopiā dēperditus
Medicīnam īgnōtō facere coepisset locō
Et vēnditāret falsō antidotum nōmine,
Verbōsīs adquīsīvit sibi fāmam strophīs.
Hīc cum iacēret morbō cōnfectus gravī
Rēx urbis, ēius experiendī grātiā
Scyphum poposcit; fūsā dein simulāns aquā
Antidotō miscēre illius sē toxicum,
Ēbibere iussit ipsum positō praemiō.
Timōre mortis ille tum cōnfessus est

XIV, 4. *strophīs:* 'tricks.' 7. *scyphum:* 'cup.'

Nōn artis ūllā medicae sē prūdentiā,
Vērum stupōre vulgī factum nōbilem.
Rēx advocātā cōntiōne haec ēdidit:
'Quantae putātis esse vōs dēmentiae,
Quī capita vestra nōn dubitātis crēdere,
Cui calceandōs nēmō commīsit pedēs?'
Hōc pertinēre vērē ad illōs dīxerim,
Quōrum stultitiā quaestus impudentiae est.

XV. *Asinus ad Senem Pāstōrem.*

In prīncipātū commūtandō saepius
Nīl praeter dominī nōmen mūtant pauperēs.
Id esse vērum parva haec fābella indicat.
Asellum in prātō timidus pāscēbat senex.
Is hostium clāmōre subitō territus
Suādēbat asinō fugere, nē possent capī.
At ille lentus: 'Quaesō, num bīnās mihi
Clītellās impositūrum victōrem putās?'
Senex negāvit. 'Ergō quid rēfert meā,
Cui serviam, clītellās dum portem meās?'

XVI. *Ovis, Cervus et Lupus.*

Fraudātor hominēs cum advocat spōnsum improbōs,
Nōn rem expedīre, sed malum augēre expetit.
Ovem rogābat cervus modium trīticī
Lupō spōnsōre. At illa praemetuēns dolum:
'Rapere atque abīre semper adsuēvit lupus,

XV, 7. *lentus:* 'unconcernedly.'
8. *clītellās:* 'pack-saddles.'
XVI, 3. *modium trīticī:* 'measure of wheat.'

Tū dē cōnspectū fugere vēlōcī impetū;
Ubi vōs requīram, cum diēs advēnerit?'

XVII. *Ovis, Canis et Lupus.*

Solent mendācēs luere poenās maleficī.
Calumniātor ab ove cum peteret canis,
Quem commodāsse pānem sē contenderet,
Lupus citātus testis nōn ūnum modo
Dēbērī dīxit, vērum adfīrmāvit decem.
Ovis damnāta falsō testimōniō
Quod nōn dēbēbat solvit. Post paucōs diēs
Bidēns iacentem in foveā cōnspēxit lupum:
'Haec,' inquit, 'mercēs fraudis ā superīs datur.'

XVIII. (XX.) *Canēs Famēlicī.*

Stultum cōnsilium nōn modo effectū caret,
Sed ad perniciem quoque mortālēs dēvocat.
Corium dēpressum in fluviō vīdērunt canēs.
Id ut comēsse extractum possent facilius,
Aquam coepēre ēbibere; sed ruptī prius
Periēre, quam quod petierant contingerent.

XIX. (XXI.) *Leō Senex, Aper, Taurus et Asinus*

Quīcumque āmīsit dignitātem prīstinam,
Īgnāvīs etiam iocus est in cāsū gravī.
Dēfectus annīs et dēsertus vīribus
Leō cum iacēret spīritum extrēmum trahēns,

XVII, 2. *calumniātor:* 'under false pretences.'
3. *commodāsse:* 'lent.'
8. *foveā:* 'pitfall.'
XVIII. *Famēlicī:* 'starving.'

Aper fulmineīs ad eum vēnit dentibus
Et vindicāvit ictū veterem iniūriam.
Infestīs taurus mox cōnfōdit cornibus
Hostīle corpus. Asinus, ut vīdit ferum
Impūne laedī, calcibus frōntem extudit
At ille exspīrāns: 'Fortēs indīgnē tulī
Mihi īnsultāre; tē, nātūrae dēdecus,
Quod ferre cōgor, certē bis videor morī.'

XX. (XXII.) *Mustēla et Homō.*

Mustēla ab homine prēnsa cum īnstantem necem
Effugere vellet: 'Quaesō, parce,' inquit, 'mihi,
Quae tibi molestīs mūribus pūrgō domum.'
Respondit ille: 'Facerēs sī causā meā,
Grātum esset et dedissem veniam supplicī.
Nunc quia labōrās, ut fruāris reliquiīs,
Quās sunt rōsūrī, simul et ipsōs dēvorēs,
Nōlī imputāre vānum beneficium mihi.'
Atque ita locūtus improbam lētō dedit.
Hōc in sē dictum dēbent illī āgnōscere,
Quōrum prīvāta servit ūtilitās sibi
Et meritum ināne iactant imprūdentius.

XXI. (XXIII.) *Canis Fidēlis.*

Repente līberālis stultīs grātus est,
Vērum perītīs inritōs tendit dolōs.
Nocturnus cum fūr pānem mīsisset canī,

XIX, 5. *fulmineīs:* 'murderous,' 'deadly.'

XX. *Mustēla:* 'a weasel.'
7. *rōsūrī sunt:* 'intend to devour.'

Obiectō temptāns an cibō posset capī:
'Heus,' inquit, 'linguam vīs meam praeclūdere,
Nē lātrem prō rē domini? Multum falleris.
Namque ista subita mē iubet benīgnitās
Vigilāre, faciās nē meā culpā lucrum.'

XXII. (XXIV.) *Rāna Rupta et Bōs.*

Inops, potentem dum vult imitārī, perit.
In prātō quondam rāna cōnspēxit bovem
Et tācta invidiā tantae māgnitūdinis
Rūgōsam īnflāvit pellem; tum nātōs suōs
Interrogāvit, an bove esset lātior.
Illī negārunt. Rūrsus intendit cutem
Māiōre nīsū et similī quaesīvit modō,
Quis māior esset. Illī dīxērunt bovem.
Novissimē indīgnāta dum vult validius
Īnflāre sēsē, ruptō iacuit corpore.

XXIII. (XXV.) *Canēs et Corcodīlī.*

Cōnsilia quī dant prāva cautīs hominibus,
Et perdunt operam et dērīdentur turpiter.
Canēs currentēs bibere in Nīlō flūmine,
Ā corcodīlīs nē rapiantur, trāditum est.
Igitur cum currēns bibere coepisset canis,
Sīc corcodīlus: 'Quamlibet lambe ōtiō;
Nōlī verērī.' At ille: 'Facerem meherculēs,
Nisi esse scīrem carnis tē cupidum meae.'

XXI, 6. *lātrem:* 'bark.'
XXIII. *Corcodīlī:* a rare form of *crocodīlī.*

XXIV. (XXVI.) *Volpēs et Cicōnia.*

Nūllī nocendum; sī quis vērō laeserit,
Multandum similī iūre fābella admonet.
Volpēs ad cēnam dīcitur cicōniam
Prior invītāsse et illī in patinā līquidam
Posuisse sorbitiōnem, quam nūllō modō
Gustāre ēsuriēns potuerit cicōnia.
Quae volpem cum revocāsset, intrītō cibō
Plēnam lagōnam posuit; huic rōstrum īnserēns
Satiātur ipsa et torquet convīvam famē.
Quae cum lagōnae collum frūstrā lamberet,
Peregrīnam sīc locūtam volucrem accēpimus:
'Sua quisque exempla dēbet aequō animō patī.'

XXV. (XXVII.) *Canis et Thēsaurus et Volturius.*

[Haec rēs avārīs esse conveniēns potest
Et quī humilēs nātī dīcī locuplētēs student.]
Hūmāna effodiēns ossa thēsaurum canis
Invēnit et violārat quia Mānēs deōs,
Iniecta est illī divitiārum cupiditās,
Poenās ut sānctae Religiōnī penderet.
Itaque aurum dum custōdit, oblītus cibī
Famē est cōnsūmptus; quem stāns volturius super
Fertur locūtus: 'Ō canis, meritō iacēs,
Quī concupistī subitō rēgālēs opēs,
Triviō concepte et ēdūcāte stercore.'

XXIV, 4. *līquidam;* not, as regularly, *liquidam.*
5. *sorbitiōnem:* 'broth.'
7. *intrītō:* 'chopped.'
8. *lagōnam:* 'jar.'
XXV, 11. *stercore:* 'dunghill, 'barnyard.'

XXVI. (XXVIII.) *Volpēs et Aquila.*

Quamvīs sublīmēs dēbent humilēs metuere,
Vindicta docilī quia patet sollertiae.
Volpīnōs catulōs aquila quondam sustulit
Nīdōque posuit pullīs, ēscam ut carperent.
Hanc persecūta māter ōrāre incipit,
Nē tantum miserae luctum importāret sibi.
Contempsit illa, tūta quippe ipsō locō.
Volpēs ab ārā rapuit ārdentem facem
Tōtamque flammīs arborem circumdedit,
Hostis dolōrem damnō miscēns sanguinis.
Aquila ut perīclō mortis ēriperet suōs
Incolumēs nātōs supplex volpī trādidit.

XXVII. (XXX.) *Rānae Metuentēs Taurōrum Proelia.*

Humilēs labōrant, ubi potentēs dissident.
Rāna in palūde pūgnam taurōrum intuēns:
'Heu quanta nōbīs īnstat perniciēs!' ait.
Interrogāta ab aliā, cūr hōc dīceret,
Dē prīncipātū cum illī certārent gregis
Longēque ab ipsīs dēgerent vītam bovēs:
'Est statiō sēparāta ac dīversum genus;
Sed pulsus rēgnō memoris quī profūgerit,
Palūdis in sēcrēta veniet latibula
Et prōculcātās obteret dūrō pede.
Ita caput ad nostrum furor illōrum pertinet.'

XXVI, 2. *vindicta*: 'vengeance.'
XXVII, 9. *latibula*: 'hiding-places.'

XXVIII. (XXXI.) *Mīluus et Columbae.*

Quī sē committit hominī tūtandum improbō,
Auxilia dum requīrit, exitium invenit.
Columbae saepe cum fūgissent mīluum
Et celeritāte pennae vītāssent necem,
Cōnsilium raptor vertit ad fallāciam
Et genus inerme tālī dēcēpit dolō:
'Quā rē sollicitum potius aevum dūcitis,
Quam rēgem mē creātis ictō foedere.
Quī vōs ab omnī tūtās praestem iniūriā?'
Illae crēdentēs trādunt sēsē mīluō;
Quī rēgnum adeptus coepit vescī singulās
Et exercēre imperium saevīs unguibus.
Tunc dē reliquīs ūna: 'Meritō plectimur.'

LIBER SECUNDUS.

Auctor.

Exemplīs continētur Aesōpī genus;
Nec aliud quicquam per fābellās quaeritur,
Quam corrigātur error ut mortālium
Acuatque sēsē dīligēns industria.
Quīcumque fuerit ergō nārrandī iocus,
Dum capiat aurem et servet prōpositum suum,
Rē commendātur, nōn auctōris nōmine.

XXVIII, 13. *plectimur:* 'punished.'

1. *genus:* 'writings.'

Equidem omnī cūrā mōrem servābō senis;
Sed sī libuerit aliquid interpōnere,
Dictōrum sēnsūs ut dēlectet varietās,
Bonās in partēs, lēctor, accipiās velim,
Ita, sī rependet illam brevitās grātiam.
Cūius verbōsa nē sit commendātiō,
Attende, cūr negāre cupidīs dēbeās,
Modestīs etiam offerre, quod nōn petierint.

I. *Iuvencus, Leō et Praedātor.*

Super iuvencum stābat dēiectum leō.
Praedātor intervēnit partem postulāns.
'Darem,' inquit, 'nisi solērēs per tē sūmere,'
Et improbum rēiēcit. Fōrte innoxius
Viātor est dēductus in eundem locum
Ferōque vīsō retulit retrō pedem.
Cui placidus ille: 'Nōn est quod timeās,' ait;
'Et, quae dēbētur pars tuae modestiae,
Audācter tolle.' Tunc dīvīsō tergore
Silvās petīvit, hominī ut accessum daret.
Exemplum ēgregium prōrsus et laudābile;
Vērum est aviditās dives et pauper pudor.

II. *Anus Dīligēns Iuvenem, item Puella.*

Ā fēminīs utcumque spoliārī virōs,
Ament, amentur, nempe exemplīs discimus.
Aetātis mediae quendam mulier nōn rudis
Tenēbat annōs cēlāns ēlegantiā,
Animōsque ēiusdem pulchra iuvenis cēperat.

12. *rependet:* 'repay.'
I, 9. *tergore:* fr. *tergus* = *tergum*, 'back.'

Ambae, vidērī dum volunt illī parēs,
Capillōs hominī legere coepēre invicem.
Quī sē putāret fingī cūrā mulierum,
Calvus repente factus est; nam funditus
Cānōs puella, nigrōs anus ēvellerat.

III. *Aesōpus ad Quendam dē Successū Improbōrum.*

Lacerātus quīdam morsū vehementis canis
Tīnctum cruōre pānem mīsit maleficō,
Audierat esse quod remedium vulneris.
Tunc sīc Aesōpus: 'Nōlī cōram plūribus
Hōc facere canibus, nē nōs vīvōs dēvorent,
Cum scierint esse tāle culpae praemium.'
Successus improbōrum plūrēs adlicit.

IV. *Aquila, Fēlēs et Aper.*

Aquila in sublīmī quercū nīdum fēcerat;
Fēlēs cavernam nancta in mediā pepererat;
Sūs memoris cultrīx fētum ad īmam posuerat.
Tum fōrtuītum fēlēs contubernium
Fraude et scelestā sīc ēvertit malitiā.
Ad nīdum scandit volucris: 'Perniciēs,' ait,
'Tibī parātur, fōrsan et miserae mihi;
Nam fodere terram quod vidēs cottīdiē
Aprum īnsidiōsum, quercum vult ēvertere,
Ut nostram in plānō facile prōgeniem opprimat.'
Terrōre offūsō et perturbātīs sēnsibus

II, 9. *calvus:* 'bald.'

IV, 4. *contubernium:* 'association.'

Dērēpit ad cubīle sētōsae suis:
'Māgnō,' inquit, 'in perīclō sunt nātī tuī;
Nam, simul exieris pāstum cum tenerō grege,
Aquila est parāta rapere porcellōs tibi.'
Hunc quoque timōre postquam complēvit locum,
Dolōsa, tūtō condidit sēsē cavō.
Inde ēvagāta noctū suspēnsō pede,
Ubi ēsca sē replēvit et prōlem suam,
Pavōrem simulāns prōspicit tōtō diē.
Ruīnam metuēns aquila rāmīs dēsidet;
Aper rapīnam vītāns nōn prōdit forās.
Quid multa? Inediā sunt cōnsūmptī cum suīs
Fēlisque catulīs largam praebuērunt dapem.
Quantum homo bilinguis saepe concinnet malī,
Documentum habēre stulta crēdulitās potest.

V. *Caesar ad Ātriēnsem.*

Est ārdeliōnum quaedam Rōmae nātiō,
Trepidē concursāns occupāta in ōtiō,
Grātīs anhēlāns, multa agendō nīl agēns,
Sibī molesta et aliīs odiōsissima.
Hanc ēmendāre, si tamen possum, volō
Vērā fābellā; pretium est operae attendere.
Caesar Tiberius cum petēns Neāpolim
In Mīsēnēnsem vīllam vēnisset suam,
Quae mōnte summō posita Lūcullī manū
Prōspectat Siculum et respicit Tuscum mare;
Ex alticinctīs ūnus ātriēnsibus,
Cui tunica ab umerīs linteō Pēlūsiō

12. *sētōsae:* 'bristly.'
25. *homo*, not, as regularly, *homō*.
V. *Ātriēnsem:* 'steward.'
1. *ārdeliōnum:* 'busy-bodies.'

Erat dēstricta, cirrīs dēpendentibus,
Perambulante laeta dominō viridia,
Alveolō coepit līgneō cōnspergere
Humum aestuantem, cōme officium iactitāns;
Sed dērīdētur. Inde nōtīs flexibus
Praecurrit alium in xystum, sēdāns pulverem.
Agnōscit hominem Caesar remque intellegit.
Is ut putāvit esse nēscio quid bonī:
'Heus!' inquit dominus. Ille enimvērō adsilit,
Dōnātiōnis alacer certae gaudiō.
Tum sīc iocāta est tanta māiestās ducis:
'Nōn multum ēgistī et opera nēquīquam perit;
Multō māiōris alapae mēcum vēneunt.'

VI. *Aquila et Cornīx.*

Contrā potentēs nēmō est mūnītus satis;
Sī vērō accessit cōnsiliātor maleficus,
Vīs et nēquitia quicquid oppūgnant, ruit.
Aquila in sublīme sustulit testūdinem.
Quae cum abdidisset corneā corpus domō
Nec ūllō pactō laedī posset condita,
Vēnit per aurās cornīx et propter volāns:
'Opīmam sānē praedam rapuistī unguibus;
Sed nisi mōnstrārō quid sit faciendum tibi,
Gravī nēquīquam tē lassābit pondere.'
Prōmissa parte suādet, ut scopulum super

13. *cirrīs:* 'fringe.'
14. *viridia:* 'shrubbery.'
16. *cōme:* 'officiously.'
16. *iactitāns:* 'proffering.'
17. *flexibus:* 'by-paths.'
18. *xystum:* 'portico.'
20. *nēscio*, not, as regularly, *nēsciō*.
25. *alapae:* 'blows' of manumission.

VI. *Cornīx:* 'a crow.'
7. *propter:* 'near by.'

Altīs ab astrīs dūram inlīdat corticem,
Quā comminūtā facile vescātur cibō.
Inducta verbīs aquila, monitis pāruit,
Simul et magistrae largē dīvīsit dapem.
Sīc tūta quae nātūrae fuerat mūnere,
Impār duābus occidit trīstī nece.

VII. *Mūlī Duo et Raptōrēs.*

Mūlī gravātī sarcinīs ībant duo.
Ūnus ferēbat fiscōs cum pecūniā,
Alter tumentēs multō saccōs hordeō.
Ille onere dīves celsā cervīce ēminet
Clarumque collō iactat tintinnābulum,
Comes quiētō sequitur et placidō gradū.
Subitō latrōnēs ex īnsidiīs advolant
Interque caedem ferrō mūlum sauciant,
Dīripiunt nummōs, neglegunt vīle hordeum.
Spoliātus igitur cāsūs cum flēret suōs:
'Equidem,' inquit alter, 'mē contemptum gaudeō,
Nam nīl āmīsī nec sum laesus vulnere.'
Hōc argūmentō tūta est hominum tenuitās;
Māgnae perīclō sunt opēs obnoxiae.

VIII. *Cervus ad Bovēs.*

Cervus nemorōsīs excitātus latibulīs,
Ut vēnātōrum fugeret īnstantem necem,
Caecō timōre proximam vīllam petit
Et opportūnō sē bovīlī condidit.

VII, 2. *fiscōs:* 'money-bags.'
5. *tintinnābulum:* 'bell.'
14. *obnoxiae:* 'subject.'

Hīc bōs latentī: 'Quidnam voluistī tibi,
Īnfēlīx, ūltrō quī ad necem cucurreris
Hominumque tēctō spīritum commīseris?'
At ille supplex: 'Vōs modo,' inquit, 'parcite,
Occāsiōne rūrsus ērumpam datā.'
Spatium diēī noctis excipiunt vicēs.
Frōndem būbulcus adfert, nīl ideō videt.
Eunt subinde et redeunt omnēs rūsticī,
Nēmō animadvertit; trānsit etiam vīlicus,
Nec ille quicquam sentit. Tum gaudēns ferus
Būbus quiētīs agere coepit grātiās,
Hospitium adversō quod praestiterint tempore.
Respondit ūnus: 'Salvum tē cupimus quidem;
Sed ille, quī oculōs centum habet, sī vēnerit,
Māgnō in perīclō vīta vertētur tua.'
Haec inter ipse dominus ā cēnā redit
Et, quia corruptōs vīderat nūper bovēs,
Accēdit ad praesaepe: 'Cūr frōndis parum est,
Strāmenta dēsunt? Tollere haec arānea
Quantum est labōris?' Dum scrūtātur singula,
Cervī quoque alta cōnspicātur cornua;
Quem convocātā iubet occīdī familiā
Praedamque tollit. Haec sīgnificat fābula,
Dominum vidēre plūrimum in rēbus suīs.

Auctor.

Aesōpī ingeniō statuam posuēre Atticī
Servumque conlocārunt aeternā in basī,

VIII, 11. *būbulcus:* 'ploughman.'
13. *vīlicus:* 'overseer.'
21. *corruptōs:* 'lean.'
23. *strāmenta:* 'bedding.'
23. *arānea:* 'spider-web.'

Patēre honōris scīrent ut cūnctīs viam
Nec generī tribuī, sed virtūtī, glōriam.
Quoniam occupārat alter, nē prīmus forem,
Nē sōlus esset, studuī; quod superfuit:
Nec haec invidia, vērum est aemulātiō.
Quod sī labōrī fāverit Latium meō,
Plūrēs habēbit, quōs oppōnat Graeciae.
Sī līvor obtrectāre cūram voluerit,
Nōn tamen ēripiet laudis cōnscientiam.
Sī nostrum studium ad aurēs cultās pervenit
Et arte fictās animus sentit fābulās,
Omnem querellam submovet fēlīcitās.
Sīn autem doctus illīs occurrit labor,
Sinistra quōs in lūcem nātūra extulit
[Nec quicquam possunt nisi meliōrēs carpere,]
Fātāle vitium corde dūrātō feram,
Dōnec fōrtūnam crīminis pudeat suī.

LIBER TERTIUS.

Phaedrus ad Eutychum.

Phaedrī libellōs legere sī dēsīderās,
Vacēs oportet, Eutyche, ā negōtiīs,
Ut līber animus sentiat vim carminis.
'Vērum,' inquis, 'tantī nōn est ingenium tuum,
Mōmentum ut hōrae pereat officiīs meīs.'
Nōn ergō causa est manibus id tangī tuīs,
Quod occupātīs auribus nōn convenit.

Fōrtasse dīcēs: 'Aliquae venient fēriae,
Quae mē solūtō pectore ad studium vocent.'
Legēsne, quaesō, potius vīlēs nēniās,
Impendās cūram quam reī domesticae,
Reddās amīcīs tempora, uxōrī vacēs,
Animum relaxēs, ōtium dēs corporī,
Ut adsuētam fortius praestēs vicem?
Mūtandum tibi prōpositum est et vītae genus,
Intrāre sī Mūsārum līmen cōgitās.
Ego, quem Pieriō māter ēnīxa est iugō,
In quō tonantī sāncta Mnēmosynē Iovī
Fēcunda noviēs artium peperit chorum,
Quamvīs in ipsā paene nātus sim scholā
Cūramque habendī penitus corde ērāserim
Et laude invīctā vītam in hanc incubuerim,
Fastīdiōsē tamen in coetum recipior.
Quid crēdis illī accidere, quī māgnās opēs
Exaggerāre quaerit omnī vigiliā,
Doctō labōrī dulce praepōnēns lucrum?
Sed iam quodcumque fuerit, ut dīxit Sinōn,
Ad rēgem cum Dardaniae perductus foret,
Librum exarābō tertium Aesōpī stilō,
Honōrī et meritīs dēdicāns illum tuīs.
Quem sī legēs, laetābor; sīn autem minus,
Habēbunt certē, quō sē oblectent posterī.
Nunc, fābulārum cūr sit inventum genus,
Brevī docēbō. Servitūs obnoxia,
Quia quae volēbat nōn audēbat dīcere,

8. *fēriae:* 'holidays.'
10. *nēniās:* 'mere songs.'
14. *vicem:* 'part,' 'duty.'
19. *artium:* 'the Muses.'
21. *ērāserim:* 'abolished.'
29. *exarābō:* 'produce,' 'write.'

Adfectus propriōs in fābellās trānstulit
Calumniamque fictīs ēlūsit iocīs.
Ego porrō illīus sēmitā fēcī viam,
Et cōgitāvī plūra quam relīquerat,
In calamitātem dēligēns quaedam meam.
Quod sī accūsātor alius Sēiānō foret,
Sī testis alius, iūdex alius dēnique,
Dīgnum fatērer esse mē tantīs malīs,
Nec hīs dolōrem dēlēnīrem remediīs.
Suspiciōne sī quis errābit suā
Et rapiet ad sē, quod erit commūne omnium,
Stultē nūdābit animī cōnscientiam.
Huic excūsātum mē velim nihilō minus;
Neque enim notāre singulōs mēns est mihi,
Vērum ipsam vītam et mōrēs hominum ostendere.
Rem mē professum dīcet fōrs aliquis gravem.
Sī Phryx Aesōpus potuit, sī Anarcharsis Scytha
Aeternam fāmam condere ingeniō suō,
Ego, litterātae quī sum propior Graeciae,
Cūr somnō inertī dēseram patriae decus?
Thrēissa cum gēns numeret auctōrēs suōs,
Līnōque Apollō sit parēns, Mūsa Orpheō,
Quī saxa cantū mōvit et domuit ferās
Hebrīque tenuit impetūs dulcī morā.
Ergō hinc abestō līvor, nē frūstrā gemās,
Quoniam sollemnis mihi dēbētur glōria.
Indūxī tē ad legendum; sincērum mihi
Candōre nōtō reddās iūdicium petō.

I. *Anus ad Amphoram.*

Anus iacēre vīdit ēpōtam amphoram,
Adhūc Falernā faece ē testā nōbilī
Odōrem quae iōcundum lātē spargeret.
Hunc postquam tōtīs avida trāxit nāribus:
'Ō suāvis anima! quāle in tē dīcam bonum
Antehāc fuisse, tālēs cum sint reliquiae?'
Hōc quō pertineat, dīcet quī mē nōverit.

II. *Panthēra et Pāstōrēs.*

Solet ā dēspectīs pār referrī grātia.
Panthēra imprūdēns ōlim in foveam dēcidit.
Vīdēre agrestēs; aliī fūstēs congerunt,
Aliī onerant saxīs; quīdam contrā miseritī
Peritūrae quippe, quamvīs nēmō laederet,
Mīsēre pānem, ut sustinēret spīritum.
Nox īnsecūta est; abeunt sēcūrī domum,
Quasi inventūrī mortuam postrīdiē.
At illa, vīrēs ut refēcit languidās,
Vēlōcī saltū foveā sēsē līberat
Et in cubīle concitō properat gradū.
Paucīs diēbus interpositīs prōvolat,
Pecus trucīdat, ipsōs pāstōrēs necat,
Et cūncta vāstāns saevit īrātō impetū.
Tum sibi timentēs, quī ferae pepercerant,
Damnum haud recūsant, tantum prō vītā rogant.
At illa: 'Meminī quī mē saxō petierit,

I, 1. *ēpōtam:* 'emptied.'
6. *antehāc:* pronounced *anthāc.*
II, 3. *fūstēs:* 'clubs.'

Quī pānem dederit; vōs timēre absistite;
Illīs revertor hostis, quī mē laeserunt.'

III. (IV.) *Lanius et Sīmius.*

Pendēre ad lanium quīdam vīdit sīmium,
Inter reliquās mercēs atque obsōnia;
Quaesīvit, quidnam saperet? Tum lanius iocāns:
'Quāle,' inquit, 'caput est, tālis praestātur sapor.'
Rīdiculē magis hōc dictum quam vērē aestimō;
Quandō et fōrmōsōs saepe invēnī pessimōs,
Et turpī faciē multōs cōgnōvī optimōs.

IV. (V.) *Aesōpus et Petulāns.*

Successus ad perniciem multōs dēvocat.
Aesōpō quīdam petulāns lapidem impēgerat.
'Tantō,' inquit, 'melior!' Assem deinde illī dedit,
Sīc prōsecūtus: 'Plūs nōn habeō mehercule,
Sed, unde accipere possīs, mōnstrābō tibi.
Venit ecce dīves et potēns; huic similiter
Impinge lapidem et dignum accipiēs praemium.'
Persuāsus ille fēcit, quod monitus fuit;
Sed spēs fefellit impudentem audāciam:
Comprēnsus namque poenās persolvit cruce.

V. (VI.) *Musca et Mūla.*

Musca in tēmōne sēdit et mūlam increpāns:
'Quam tarda es!' inquit, 'nōn vīs citius prōgredī?

19. *laeserunt:* not, as regularly, *laesērunt.*

III. *Lanius:* 'butcher.'
2. *reliquās* is quadrisyllabic.

Vide, nē dolōne collum compungam tibi.'
Respondit illa: 'Verbīs nōn moveor tuīs;
Sed istum timeō, sellā quī prīmā sedēns
Iugum flagellō temperat lentō meum
Et ōra frēnīs continet spūmantibus.
Quāpropter aufer frīvolam īnsolentiam;
Nam et ubi trīcandum et ubi currendum sit sciō.'
Hāc dērīdērī fābulā meritō potest,
Quī sine virtūte vānās exercet minās.

VI. (VII.) *Lupus ad Canem.*

Quam dulcis sit lībertās, breviter prōloquar.
Canī perpāstō māciē cōnfectus lupus
Fōrte occucurrit. Dein salūtātum invicem
Ut restitērunt: 'Unde sīc,' quaesō, 'nitēs?
Aut quō cibō fēcistī tantum corporis?
Ego, quī sum longē fortior, pereō famē.'
Canis simpliciter: 'Eadem est condiciō tibi,
Praestāre dominō sī pār officium potēs.'
'Quod?' inquit ille. 'Custōs ut sīs līminis,
Ā fūribus tueāris et noctū domum.'
'Ego vērō sum parātus; nunc patior nivēs
Imbrēsque in silvīs asperam vītam trahēns;
Quantō est facilius mihi sub tēctō vīvere,
Et ōtiōsum largō satiārī cibō?'
'Venī ergō mēcum.' Dum prōcēdunt, aspicit
Lupus ā catēnā collum dētrītum canī.
'Unde hōc, amīce?' 'Nihil est.' 'Dīc,' quaesō, 'tamen.'

V, 3. *vide:* final "e" is short by exception.
3. *compungam:* 'puncture.'
9. *trīcandum:* 'ought to go slowly.'
VI, 2. *perpāstō:* 'well-fed.'

'Quia videor ācer, adligant mē interdiū,
Lūce ut quiēscam et vigilem, nox cum vēnerit;
Crepusculō solūtus, quā vīsum est, vagor.
Adfertur ūltrō pānis; dē mēnsā suā
Dat ossa dominus; frūsta iactant familia
Et, quod fastīdit quisque, pulmentārium.
Sīc sine labōre venter implētur meus.'
'Age, abīre sī quō est animus, est licentia?'
'Nōn plānē est,' inquit. 'Fruere, quae laudās, canis;
Rēgnāre nōlō, līber ut nōn sim mihi.'

VII. (VIII.) *Soror et Frāter.*

Praeceptō monitus saepe tē cōnsīderā.
Habēbat quīdam fīliam turpissimam
Idemque īnsignem pulchrā faciē fīlium.
Hī, speculum in cathedrā mātris ut positum fuit,
Puerīliter lūdentēs fōrte īnspēxerunt.
Hīc sē fōrmōsum iactat; illa īrāscitur
Nec glōriantis sustinet frātris iocōs,
Accipiēns quippe cūncta in contumēliam.
Ergō ad patrem dēcurrit laesūra invicem
Māgnāque invidiā crīminātur fīlium,
Vir nātus quod rem fēminārum tetigerit,
Amplexus ille utrumque et carpēns ōscula
Dulcemque in ambōs cāritātem partiēns:
'Cottīdiē,' inquit, 'speculō vōs ūtī volō:
Tū fōrmam nē corrumpās nēquitiae malīs;
Tū faciem ut istam mōribus vincās bonīs.'

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20. *crepusculō:* 'twilight.'
23. *pulmentārium:* 'titbits.'

VII, 5. *īnspēxerunt:* not, as regularly, *īnspēxērunt;* cf. III, 2, 19.

VIII. (IX.) *Sōcratēs ad Amīcōs.*

Volgāre amīcī nōmen, sed rāra est fidēs.
Cum parvās aedēs sibi fundāsset Sōcratēs,
— Cūius nōn fugiō mortem, sī fāmam adsequar,
Et cēdō invidiae, dummodo absolvar cinis, —
Ex populō sīc nēsciō quis, ut fierī solet:
'Quaesō, tam augustam tālis vir pōnis domum?'
'Utinam, inquit, vērīs hanc amīcīs impleam!'

IX. (XII.) *Pullus ad Margarītam.*

In sterculīnō pullus gallīnāceus
Dum quaerit ēscam, margarītam repperit.
'Iacēs indīgnō quanta rēs,' inquit, 'locō!
Hōc sī quis pretiī cupidus vīdisset tuī,
Ōlim redīssēs ad splendōrem prīstinum.
Ego quod tē invēnī, potior cui multō est cibus,
Nec tibi prōdesse nec mihī quicquam potest.'
Hōc illīs nārrō, quī mē nōn intellegunt.

X. (XIII.) *Apēs et Fūcī Vespā Iūdice.*

Apēs in altā fēcerant quercū favōs;
Hōs fūcī inertēs esse dīcēbant suōs.
Līs ad forum dēducta est, vespā iūdice.
Quae genus utrumque nōsset cum pulcherrimē,
Lēgem duābus hanc prōposuit partibus:
'Nōn inconveniēns corpus et pār est color,
In dubium plānē rēs ut meritō vēnerit.

IX, 1. *sterculīnō:* 'dung-hill,' 'barn-yard.'
1. *pullus gallināceus:* 'a young cock.'

X. *Fūcī:* 'drones.'
Vespā: 'wasp.'

Sed nē religiō peccet imprūdēns mea,
Alvōs accipite et cērīs opus īnfundite,
Ut ex sapōre mellis et fōrmā favī,
Dē quīs nunc agitur, auctor hōrum appareat.'
Fūcī recūsant; apibus condiciō placet.
Tunc illa tālī iūs tulit sententiā:
'Apertum est quis nōn possit, et quis fēcerit.
Quāpropter apibus frūctum restituō suum.'
Hanc praeterīssem fābulam silentiō,
Sī pactam fūcī nōn recūsāssent fidem.

XI. (XIV.) *Dē Lūsū et Sevēritāte.*

Puerōrum in turbā quīdam lūdentem Atticus
Aesōpum nucibus cum vīdisset, restitit
Et quasi dēlīrum rīsit. Quod sēnsit simul
Dērīsor potius quam dērīdendus senex,
Arcum retēnsum posuit in mediā viā:
'Heus!' inquit, 'sapiēns, expedī, quid fēcerim.'
Concurrit populus. Ille sē torquet diū
Nec quaestiōnis positae causam intellegit.
Novissimē succumbit. Tum victor sophus:
'Cito rumpēs arcum, semper sī tēnsum habueris;
At sī laxāris, cum volēs erit ūtilis.'
Sīc lūdus animō dēbet aliquandō darī,
Ad cōgitandum melior ut redeat tibi.

XII. (XVI.) *Cicāda et Noctua.*

Hūmānitātī quī sē nōn accommodat,
Plērumque poenās oppetit superbiae.
Cicāda acerbum noctuae convīcium

9. *alvōs:* 'bee-hives.' *Noctua:* 'owl.'
XII. *Cicāda:* 'cricket.'

Faciēbat, solitae vīctum in tenebrīs quaerere
Cavōque rāmō capere somnum interdiū.
Rogāta est, ut tacēret. Multō validius
Clāmāre coepit. Rūrsus admōtā prece
Accēnsa magis est. Noctua ut vīdit sibi
Nūllum esse auxilium et verba contemnī sua,
Hāc est aggressa garrulam fallāciā:
'Dormīre quia mē nōn sinunt cantūs tuī,
Sonāre citharam quōs putēs Apollinis,
Pōtāre est animus nectar, quod Pallas mihi
Nūper dōnāvit; sī nōn fastīdīs, venī;
Ūnā bibāmus.' Illa, quae ārēbat sitī,
Simul cōgnōvit vōcem laudārī suam,
Cupidē advolāvit. Noctua ēgressa ē cavō
Trepidantem cōnsectāta est et lētō dedit
Sīc vīva quod negārat tribuit mortua.

XIII. (XVII.) *Arborēs in Deōrum Tūtēlā.*

Ōlim, quās vellent esse in tūtēlā suā,
Dīvī lēgērunt arborēs. Quercus Iovī
Et myrtus Venerī placuit, Phoebō laurea,
Pīnus Cybēbae, pōpulus celsa Herculī.
Minerva admīrāns, quā rē sterilēs sūmerent,
Interrogāvit. Causam dīxit Iuppiter:
'Honōrem frūctū nē videāmur vēndere.'
'At, meherculēs, nārrābit quod quis voluerit,
Olīva nōbīs propter frūctum est grātior.'
Tunc sīc deōrum genitor atque hominum sator:

XIII, 8. *nārrābit:* used with the force of a subjunctive to express a mild command.

8. *meherculēs:* always a trisyllable in Phaedrus.

'Ō nāta, meritō sapiēns dīcere omnibus!
Nisi ūtile est quod facimus, stulta est glōria.'
Nihil agere quod nōn prōsit fābella admonet.

XIV. (XVIII.) *Pāvō ad Iūnōnem dē Vōce Suā.*

Pāvō ad Iūnōnem vēnit indignē ferēns,
Cantūs luscinii quod sibī nōn tribuerit;
Illum esse cūnctīs avibus admīrābilem,
Sē dērīdērī, simul ac vōcem mīserit.
Tunc cōnsōlandī grātiā dīxit dea:
'Sed fōrmā vincis, vincis māgnitūdine;
Nitor smaragdī collō praefulget tuō
Pictīsque plūmīs gemmeam caudam explicās.'
'Quō mī,' inquit, 'mūtam speciem, sī vincor sonō?'
'Fātōrum arbitriō partēs sunt vōbīs datae:
Tibi fōrma, vīrēs aquilae, lusciniō melos,
Augurium corvō, laeva cornīcī ōmina,
Omnēsque propriīs sunt contentae dōtibus.'
Nōlī adfectāre quod tibī nōn est datum,
Dēlūsa nē spēs ad querellam rēcidat.

XV. (XIX.) *Aesōpus Respondet Garrulō.*

Aesōpus dominō sōlus cum esset familiā,
Parāre cēnam iūssus est mātūrius.
Ignem ergō quaerēns, aliquot lūstrāvit domūs,
Tandemque invēnit, ubi lucernam accenderet.
Tum circum euntī fuerat quod iter longius,
Effēcit brevius; namque rēctā per forum
Coepit redīre. Et quīdam ē turbā garrulus:
'Aesōpe, mediō sōle quid cum lūmine?'

XIV, 15. *rēcidat*, not, as regularly, *recidat*.

'Hominem,' inquit, 'quaerō,' et abiit festīnāns domum.
Hōc sī molestus ille ad animum rettulit,
Sēnsit profectō sē hominem nōn vīsum senī,
Intempestīvē quī occupātō adlūserit.

Poēta.

Supersunt mihi quae scrībam, sed parcō sciēns,
Prīmum esse videar nē tibī molestior,
Dīstringit quem multārum rērum varietās;
Dein sī quis eadem fōrte cōnārī velit,
Habēre ut possit aliquid operis residuī;
Quamvīs māteriae tanta abundet cōpia,
Labōrī faber ut dēsit, nōn fabrō labor.
Brevitātī nostrae praemium ut reddās, petō,
Quod es pollicitus; exhibē vōcis fidem.
Nam vīta mortī propior est cottīdiē,
Et hōc minus perveniet ad mē mūneris,
Quō plūs cōnsūmet temporis dīlātiō.
Sī cito rem peragās, ūsus fīet longior;
Fruar diutius, sī celerius cēperō.
Languentis aevī dum sunt aliquae reliquiae,
Auxiliō locus est; ōlim seniō dēbilem
Frūstrā adiuvāre bonitās nītētur tua,
Cum iam dēsierit esse beneficiō ūtilis
Et mors vīcīna flāgitābit dēbitum.
Stultum admovēre tibi precēs exīstimō,
Prōclīvis ūltrō cum sit misericordia.
Saepe impetrāvit veniam cōnfessus reus:
Quantō innocentī iūstius dēbet darī?
Tuae sunt partēs; fuerunt aliōrum prius.

24. *fuerunt*, not *fuērunt*; cf. III, 2, 19 and III, 7, 5.

Dein similī gȳrō venient aliōrum vicēs.
Dēcerne quod religiō, quod patitur fidēs,
Et graviter mē tūtāre iūdiciō tuō.
Excēdit animus quem prōposuit terminum,
Sed difficulter continētur spīritus,
Integritātis quī sincērae cōnscius
Ā noxiōrum premitur īnsolentiīs.
Quī sint, requīrēs; appārēbunt tempore.
Ego, quondam lēgī quam puer sententiam,
'Palam mūtīre plēbēiō piāculum est,'
Dum sānitās cōnstābit, pulchrē meminerō.

LIBER QUARTUS.

Poēta ad Particulōnem.

Cum dēstināssem terminum operī statuere
In hōc, ut aliīs esset māteriae satis,
Cōnsilium tacitō corde damnāvī meum.
Nam sī quis tālis etiam titulī est appetēns,
Quō nōn pactō indāgābit, quidnam omīserim,
Ut illud ipsum cupiat fāmae trādere,
Sua cuique cum sit animī cōgitātiō
Colorque proprius! Ergō nōn levitās mihi,
Sed certa ratiō causam scrībendī dedit.
Quā rē, Particulō, quoniam caperis fābulīs,
— Quās Aesōpīās, nōn Aesōpī, nōminō,
Quia paucās ille ostendit, ego plūrēs ferō,

Particulōnem: a proper name.

Ūsus vetustō genere, sed rēbus novīs ;—
Quartum libellum, cum vacārit, perlegēs.
Hunc obtrectāre sī volet malīgnitās,
Imitārī dum nōn possit, obtrectet licet.
Mihi parta laus est, quod tū, quod similēs tuī
Vestrās in chartās verba trānsfertis mea
Dīgnumque longā iūdicātis memoriā.
Inlitterātum plausum cūr dēsīderō?

I. *Asinus et Gallī.*

Quī nātus est īnfēlīx, nōn vītam modo
Trīstem dēcurrit, vērum post obitum quoque
Persequitur illum dūra fātī miseria.
Gallī Cybēbēs circum in quaestūs dūcere
Asinum solēbant bāiulantem sarcinās.
Is cum labōre et plāgīs esset mortuus,
Dētractā pelle sibi fēcērunt tympana.
Rogātī mox ā quōdam, dēliciō suō
Quidnam fēcissent, hōc locūtī sunt modō :
'Putābat sē post mortem sēcūrum fore ;
Ecce aliae plāgae congeruntur mortuō.'

II. *Poēta.*

Ioculāre tibi vidētur, et sānē levī,
Dum nihil habēmus māius, calamō lūdimus.
Sed dīligenter intuēre hās nēniās ;
Quantam sub illīs ūtilitātem reperiēs !
Nōn semper ea sunt, quae videntur ; dēcipit
Frōns prīma multōs ; rāra mēns intellegit,

I. *Gallī :* 'priests of Cybele.'
5. *bāiulantem :* 'carrying.'
8. *dēliciō :* 'darling.'
II, 2. *calamō :* 'pen.'

Quod interiōre condidit cūra angulō.
Hōc nē locūtus sine mercēde exīstimer,
Fābellam adiciam dē mustēlā et mūribus.
Mustēla cum annīs et senectā dēbilis
Mūrēs vēlōcēs nōn valēret adsequī,
Involvit sē farīnā et obscūrō locō
Abiēcit neglegenter. Mūs ēscam putāns
Adsiluit et compressus occubuit necī.
Alter similiter, deinde perit et tertius.
Aliquot secūtīs vēnit et retorridus,
Quī saepe laqueōs et mūscipula effūgerat;
Proculque īnsidiās cernēns hostis callidī:
'Sīc valeās,' inquit, 'ut farīna es, quae iacēs!'

III. *Dē Volpe et Ūvā.*

Famē coācta volpēs altā in vīneā
Ūvam appetēbat summīs saliēns vīribus;
Quam tangere ut nōn potuit, discēdēns ait:
'Nōndum mātūra est; nōlō acerbam sūmere.'
Quī facere quae nōn possunt verbīs ēlevant,
Adscrībere hōc dēbēbunt exemplum sibi.

IV. *Equus et Aper.*

Equus sēdāre solitus quō fuerat sitim,
Dum sēsē aper volūtat, turbāvit vadum.
Hinc orta līs est. Sonipēs īrātus ferō,
Auxilium petiit hominis, quem dorsō levāns

12. *farīnā:* 'meal.'
16. *retorridus:* 'dried-up,' 'hoary headed.'
III, 5. *ēlevant:* 'decry.'

Redīt ad hostem. Iactīs hunc tēlīs eques
Postquam interfēcit, sīc locūtus trāditur:
'Laetor tulisse auxilium mē precibus tuīs;
Nam praedam cēpī et didicī, quam sīs ūtilis;'
Atque ita coēgit frēnōs invītum patī.
Tum maestus ille: 'Parvae vindictam reī
Dum quaerō dēmēns, servitūtem repperī.'
Haec īrācundōs admonēbit fābula:
Impūne potius laedī quam pedī alterī.

V. *Poēta.*

Plūs esse in ūnō saepe quam in turbā bonī,
Nārrātiōne posterīs trādam brevī.
Quīdam dēcēdēns trēs relīquit fīliās:
Ūnam fōrmōsam et oculīs vēnantem virōs;
At alteram lānificam et frūgī, rūsticam;
Dēvōtam vīnō tertiam et turpissimam.
Hārum autem mātrem fēcit hērēdem senex
Sub condiciōne, tōtam ut fōrtūnam tribus
Aequāliter distribuat, sed tālī modō:
Nē data possideant aut fruantur; tum, simul
Habēre rēs dēsierint, quās accēperint,
Centēna mātrī cōnferant sēstertia.
Athēnās rūmor implet. Māter sēdula
Iūris perītōs cōnsulit; nēmō expedit,
Quō pactō nōn possideant, quod fuerit datum,
Frūctumve capiant; deinde quae tulerint nihil,
Quānam ratiōne cōnferant pecūniam.
Postquam cōnsūmpta est temporis longī mora,
Nec testāmentī potuit sēnsus conligī,
Fidem advocāvit, iūre neglēctō, parēns.

Sēpōnit moechae vestem, mundum muliebrem,
Lavātiōnem argenteam, eunūchōs, glabrōs;
Lānificae agellōs, pecora, vīllam, operāriōs,
Bovēs, iūmenta et īnstrūmentum rūsticum;
Pōtrīcī plēnam antīquīs apothēcam cadīs,
Domum polītam et dēlicātōs hortulōs.
Sīc dēstināta dare cum vellet singulīs
Et adprobāret populus, quī illās nōverat,
Aesōpus mediā subitō in turbā cōnstitit:
'Ō sī manēret conditō sēnsus patrī,
Quam graviter ferret, quod voluntātem suam
Interpretārī nōn potuissent Atticī!'
Rogātus deinde solvit errōrem omnium.
'Domum et ōrnāmenta cum venustīs hortulīs
Et vīna vetera date lānificae rusticae;
Vestem, ūniōnes, pedisequōs et cētera
Illī adsīgnāte, vītam quae lūxū trahit;
Agrōs, vīllamque et pecora cum pāstōribus
Dōnāte moechae. Nūlla poterit perpetī,
Ut mōribus quid teneat aliēnum suīs.
Dēfōrmis cultum vēndet, ut vīnum paret;
Agrōs abiciet moecha, ut ōrnātum gerat;
At illa gaudēns pecore et lānae dedita
Quācumque summā trādet lūxuriae domum.
Sīc nūlla possidēbit, quod fuerit datum,
Et dictam mātrī cōnferent pecūniam
Et pretiō rērum, quās vēndiderint singulae.'
Ita quod multōrum fūgit imprūdentiam,
Ūnīus hominis repperit sollertia.

V, 21. *moechae:* 'flirt.'
21. *mundum:* 'ornaments.'
22. *glabrōs:* 'young slaves.'
25. *apothēcam:* 'store-room.'
36. *ūniōnes:* 'pearls.'

VI. *Pūgna Mūrium et Mustēlārum.*

Cum victī mūrēs mustēlārum exercitū
— Historia quōrum et in tabernīs pingitur —
Fugerent et artōs circum trepidārent cavōs,
Aegrē receptī tamen ēvāsērunt necem.
Ducēs eōrum, quī capitibus cornua
Suīs ligārant, ut cōnspicuum in proeliō
Habērent sīgnum, quod sequerentur mīlitēs,
Haesēre in portīs suntque captī ab hostibus;
Quōs immolātōs victor avidīs dentibus
Capācis alvī mersit tartareō specū.
Quemcumque populum trīstis ēventus premit,
Perīclitātur māgnitūdō prīncipum;
Minūta plēbēs facilī praesidiō latet.

VII. *Phaedrus.*

Tū, quī, nāsūte, scrīpta dēstringis mea
Et hōc iocōrum legere fastīdīs genus,
Parvā libellum sustinē patientiā,
Sevēritātem frōntis dum plācō tuae
Et in cothurnīs prōdit Aesōpus novīs.
Utinam nec umquam Pēliī nemoris iugō
Pīnus bipennī concidisset Thessala!
Nec ad professae mortis audācem viam
Fabricāsset Argus opere Palladiō ratem,
Inhospitālis prīma quae pontī sinūs
Patefēcit in perniciem Grāiūm et barbarūm!
Namque et superbī luget Aeētae domus,

VII, 1. *nāsūte:* 'scornful one.'

Et rēgna Peliae scelere Mēdēae iacent,
Quae saevum ingenium variīs involvēns modīs
Illīc per artūs frātris explicuit fugam,
Hīc caede patris Pēliadum īnfēcit manus.
Quid tibi vidētur? 'Hōc quoque īnsulsum est,' ais,
'Falsōque dictum; longē quia vetustior
Aegaea Mīnos classe perdomuit freta
Iūstōque vindicāvit exemplō impetum.'
Quid ergō possum facere tibi, lēctor Catō.
Sī nec fābellae tē iuvant nec fābulae!
Nōlī molestus esse omnīnō litterīs,
Māiōrem exhibeant nē tibī molestiam.
Hoc illīs dictum est, quī stultitiā nauseant
Et, ut putentur sapere, caelum vituperant.

VIII. *Serpēns ad Fabrum Ferrārium.*

Mordāciōrem quī improbō dente appetit,
Hōc argūmentō sē dēscrībī sentiat.
In officīnam fabrī vēnit vīpera.
Haec cum temptāret, sī qua rēs esset cibō,
Līmam momordit. Illa contrā contumāx:
'Quid mē,' inquit, 'stulta, dente captās laedere,
Omne adsuēvī ferrum quae corrōdere?'

IX. *Volpēs et Caper.*

Homō in perīclum simul ac vēnit callidus,
Reperīre effugium quaerit alterius malō.
Cum dēcidisset volpēs in puteum īnscia
Et altiōre clauderētur margine,

17. *īnsulsum:* 'silly.'

VIII, 5. *līmam:* 'a file.'

Dēvēnit hīrcus sitiēns in eundem locum;
Simul rogāvit, esset an dulcis liquor
Et cōpiōsus? Illa fraudem mōliēns:
'Dēscende, amīce; tanta bonitās est aquae,
Voluptās ut satiārī nōn possit mea.'
Immīsit sē barbātus. Tum volpēcula
Ēvāsit puteō, nīxa celsīs cornibus,
Hīrcumque clausō līquit haerentem vadō.

X. *Dē Vitiīs Hominum.*

Pērās imposuit Iuppiter nōbīs duās:
Propriīs replētam vitiīs post tergum dedit,
Aliēnīs ante pectus suspendit gravem.
Hāc rē vidēre nostra mala nōn possumus;
Aliī simul dēlinquunt, cēnsōrēs sumus.

XI. *Fūr et Lucerna.*

Lucernam fūr accendit ex ārā Iovis
Ipsumque compīlāvit ad lūmen suum.
Quī sacrilegiō onustus cum discēderet,
Repente vōcem sāncta mīsit Religiō:
'Malōrum quamvīs ista fuerint mūnera
Mihīque invīsa, ut nōn offendar subripī,
Tamen, sceleste, spīritū culpam luēs,
Ōlim cum adscrīptus vēnerit poenae diēs.
Sed nē īgnis noster facinorī praelūceat,
Per quem verendōs excolit pietās deōs,
Vetō esse tāle lūminis commercium.'
Ita hodiē nec lucernam dē flammā deūm

X, 1. *pērās:* 'bags.'

XI, 2. *compīlāvit:* 'robbed.'

Nec dē lucernā fās est accendī sacrum.
Quot rēs contineat hōc argūmentum ūtilēs,
Nōn explicābit alius, quam quī repperit.
Sīgnificat prīmō saepe, quōs ipse alueris,
Tibi invenīrī māximē contrāriōs;
Secundō ostendit scelera nōn īrā deūm,
Fātōrum dictō sed pūnīrī tempore;
Novissimē interdīcit, nē cum maleficō
Ūsum bonus cōnsociet ūllīus reī.

XII. *Malās Esse Dīvitiās.*

Opēs invīsae meritō sunt fortī virō,
Quia dīves ārca vēram laudem intercipit.
Caelō receptus propter virtūtem Herculēs
Cum grātulantēs persalūtāsset deōs,
Veniente Plūtō, quī Fōrtūnae est fīlius,
Āvertit oculōs. Causam quaesīvit pater.
'Ōdī,' inquit, 'illum, quia malīs amīcus est
Simulque obiectō cūncta corrumpit lucrō.'

XIII. (XVI.) *Dē Caprīs Barbātīs.*

Barbam capellae cum impetrāssent ab Iove,
Hīrcī maerentēs indīgnārī coeperunt,
Quod dignitātem fēminae aequāssent suam.
'Sinite,' inquit, 'illās glōriā vānā fruī
Et ūsūrpāre vestrī ōrnātum mūneris,
Parēs dum nōn sint vestrae fortitūdinī.'
Hōc argūmentum monet, ut sustineās tibi
Habitū esse similēs, quī sint virtūte imparēs.

XII, 2. *ārca*: 'chest,' 'strong box.' XIII, 2. *coeperunt*: cf. p. 33, line 24.

XIV. (XVII.) *Dē Fōrtūnīs Hominum.*

Cum dē fōrtūnīs quīdam quererētur suīs,
Aesōpus finxit cōnsōlandī grātiā:
Vēxāta saevīs nāvis tempestātibus,
Inter vēctōrum lacrimās et mortis metum,
Faciem ad serēnam subitō ut mūtātur diēs,
Ferrī secundīs tūta coepit flātibus
Nimiāque nautās hilaritāte extollere.
Factus perīclīs tum gubernātor sophus:
'Parcē gaudēre oportet et sēnsim querī.'—
Tōtam aequē vītam miscet dolor et gaudium.

XV. (XIX.) *Serpēns. Misericordia Nocīva.*

Quī fert malīs auxilium, post tempus dolet.
Gelū rigentem quīdam colubram sustulit
Sinūque fōvit, contrā sē ipse misericors;
Namque ut refecta est, necuit hominem prōtinus.
Hanc alia cum rogāret causam facinoris,
Respondit: 'Nē quis discat prōdesse improbīs.'

XVI. (XX.) *Volpēs et Dracō.*

Volpēs, cubīle fodiēns, dum terram ēruit
Agitque plūrēs altius cunīculōs,
Pervēnit ad dracōnis spēluncam intimam,
Custōdiēbat quī thēsaurōs abditōs.
Hunc simul aspēxit. 'Ōrō, ut imprūdentiae
Dēs prīmum veniam; deinde sī pulchrē vidēs,

XIV, 9. *parcē*, not, as regularly, *parce.*

XV. *Nocīva:* 'hurtful.'
4. *necuit:* 'slew.'

Quam nōn conveniēns aurum sit vītae meae,
Respondeās clēmenter. Quem frūctum capis
Hōc ex labōre, quodve tantum est praemium,
Ut careās somnō et aevum in tenebrīs exigās?'
'Nūllum,' inquit ille, 'vērum hōc ā summō mihi
Iove adtribūtum est.' 'Ergō nec sūmis tibi
Nec ūllī dōnās quicquam?' 'Sīc fātīs placet.'
'Nōlō īrāscāris, līberē sī dīxerō:
Dīs est īrātīs nātus, quī est similis tibi.'
Abitūrus illūc, quō priōrēs abierunt,
Quid mente caecā miserum torquēs spīritum?
Tibi dīcō, avāre, gaudium hērēdis tuī,
Quī tūre superōs, ipsum tē fraudās cibō,
Quī trīstis audīs mūsicum citharae sonum,
Quem tībiārum mācerat iūcunditās,
Obsōniōrum pretia cui gemitum exprimunt,
Quī dum quadrantēs aggerās patrimōniō
Caelum fatīgās sordidō periūriō,
Quī circumcīdis omnem impēnsam fūnerī,
Libitīna nē quid dē tuō faciat lucrī.

XVII. (XXI.) *Phaedrus.*

Quō iūdicāre cōgitet līvor modō,
Licet dissimulet, pulchrē tamen intellegō.
Quicquid putābit esse dignum memoriā,
Aesōpī dīcet; sī quid minus adrīserit,
Ā mē contendet fictum quōvīs pignore.
Quem volo refellī iam nunc respōnsō meō:
Sīve hōc ineptum sīve laudandum est opus,

XVI, 22. *obsōniōrum*: 'victuals.'
23. *quadrantēs*: 'mites.'
26. *Libitīna*: 'the goddess of corpses.'

Invēnit ille, nostra perfēcit manus.
Sed exsequāmur coeptum prōpositī ōrdinem.

XVIII. (XXII.) *Dē Simōnide.*

Homo doctus in sē semper dīvitiās habet.
Simōnidēs, quī scrīpsit ēgregium melos,
Quō paupertātem sustinēret facilius,
Circum īre coepit urbēs Asiae nōbilēs,
Mercēde acceptā laudem victōrum canēns.
Hōc genere quaestūs postquam locuplēs factus est,
Redīre in patriam voluit cursū pelagiō;
Erat autem, ut āiunt, nātus in Cēā īnsulā:
Ascendit nāvem, quam tempestās horrida
Simul et vetustās mediō dissolvit marī.
Hī zōnās, illī rēs pretiōsās conligunt,
Subsidium vītae. Quīdam cūriōsior:
'Simōnide, tū ex opibus nīl sūmis tuīs?'
'Mēcum,' inquit, 'mea sunt cūncta.' Tunc paucī ēnatant,
Quia plūrēs onere dēgravātī perierant.
Praedōnēs adsunt, rapiunt, quod quisque extulit,
Nūdōs relinquunt. Fōrte Clāzomenae prope
Antīqua fuit urbs, quam petiērunt naufragī.
Hīc litterārum quīdam studiō deditus,
Simōnidis quī saepe versūs lēgerat
Eratque absentis admīrātor māximus,
Sermōne ab ipsō cōgnitum cupidissimē
Ad sē recēpit; veste, nummīs, familiā
Hominem exōrnāvit. Cēterī tabulam suam
Portant rogantēs victum. Quōs cāsū obviōs
Simōnidēs ut vīdit: 'Dīxī,' inquit, 'mea
Mēcum esse cūncta; vōs quod rapuistis, perit.'

XIX. (XXIII.) *Mōns Parturiēns.*

Mōns parturībat, gemitūs immānēs ciēns,
Eratque in terrīs māxima exspectātiō.
At ille mūrem peperit. Hōc scrīptum est tibi,
Quī, māgna cum mināris, extrīcās nihil.

XX. (XXIV.) *Formīca et Mūsca.*

[Nihil agere quod nōn prōsit, fābella admonet.]
Formīca et mūsca contendēbant ācriter,
Quae plūris esset. Mūsca sīc coepit prior:
'Cōnferre nostrīs tū potēs tē laudibus?
Ubi immolātur, exta praegustō deūm;
Moror inter ārās, templa perlūstrō omnia.
In capite rēgis sedeō, cum vīsum est mihi,
Et mātrōnārum casta dēlibō ōscula.
Labōrō nihil, atque optimīs rēbus fruor.
Quid hōrum simile tibi contingit, rūstica?'
'Est glōriōsus sānē convīctus deūm,
Sed illī, quī invītātur, nōn quī invīsus est.
Ārās frequentās; nempe abigeris, cum venīs.
Rēgēs commemorās et mātrōnārum ōscula;
Super etiam iactās, tegere quod dēbet pudor.
Nihil labōrās; ideō cum opus est, nīl habēs.
Ego grānum in hiemem cum studiōsē congerō,
Tē circā mūrum pāscī videō stercore.
Aestāte mē lacēssis; cum brūma est, silēs.
Morī contractam cum tē cōgunt frīgora,
Mē cōpiōsa recipit incolumem domus.

XX, 7. *dēlibō*: 'taste of,' 'enjoy.' 17. *stercore*: 'filth.'

Satis profectō rettudī superbiam.'
Fābella tālis hominum discernit notās
Eōrum quī sē falsīs ōrnant laudibus,
Et quōrum virtūs exhibet solidum decus.

XXI. (XXV.) *Poēta.*

Quantum valērent inter hominēs litterae,
Dīxī superius; quantus nunc illīs honōs
Ā superīs sit tribūtus, trādam memoriae.
Simōnidēs īdem ille, dē quō rettulī,
Victōrī laudem cuidam pyctae ut scrīberet,
Certō conductus pretiō sēcrētum petit.
Exigua cum frēnāret māteria impetum,
Ūsus poētae mōre est et licentiā
Atque interposuit gemina Lēdae pignera,
Auctōritātem similis referēns glōriae.
Opus approbāvit; sed mercēdis tertiam
Accēpit partem. Cum reliquam posceret:
'Illī,' inquit, 'reddent, quōrum sunt laudis duae.
Vērum, ut nē īrātē tē dīmissum cēnseās,
Ad cēnam mihi prōmitte; cōgnātōs volō
Hodiē invītāre, quōrum es in numerō mihi.'
Fraudātus quamvīs et dolēns iniūriā.
Nē male dissimulāns grātiam corrumperet,
Prōmīsit. Rediit hōrā dictā, recubuit.
Splendēbat hilarē pōculīs convīvium,
Māgnō apparātū laeta resonābat domus;
Repente duo cum iuvenēs sparsī pulvere,
Sūdōre multō diffluentēs, corpore

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21. *rettudī*: 'checked.'

XXI, 5. *pyctae*: 'boxer.'

Hūmānam suprā fōrmam, cuidam servulō
Mandant, ut ad sē prōvocet Simōnidem;
Illīus interesse, nē faciat moram.
Homo perturbātus excitat Simōnidem.
Ūnum prōmōrat vix pedem trīclīniō,
Ruīna camerae subitō oppressit cēterōs;
Nec ūllī iuvenēs sunt repertī ad iānuam.
Ut est vulgātus ōrdō nārrātae reī,
Omnēs sciērunt nūminum praesentiam
Vātī dedisse vītam mercēdis locō.

Poēta ad Particulōnem.

Adhūc supersunt multa, quae possim loquī,
Et cōpiōsa abundat rērum varietās;
Sed temperātae suāvēs sunt argūtiae,
Immodicae offendunt. Quā rē, vir sānctissime,
Particulō, chartīs nōmen vīctūrum meīs,
Latīnīs dum manēbit pretium litterīs,
Sī nōn ingenium, certē brevitātem approbā,
Quae commendārī tantō dēbet iūstius,
Quantō poētae sunt molestī validius.

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27. homo, not, as regularly, *homō*; *29. camerae*: 'roof.' cf. also IV, 18, 1.

LIBER QUĪNTUS.

Īdem Poēta.

Aesōpī nōmen sīcubi interposuerō,
Cui reddidī iam prīdem quicquid dēbuī,
Auctōritātis esse scītō grātiā;
Ut quīdam artificēs nostrō faciunt saeculō,
Quī pretium operibus māius inveniunt, novō
Sī marmorī adscrīpsērunt Praxitelēn suō,
Trītō Myrōnem argentō, tabulae Zeuxidem.
Adeō fūcātae plūs vetustātī favet
Invidia mordāx quam bonīs praesentibus.
Sed iam ad fābellam tālis exemplī feror.

I. *Dēmētrius Rēx et Menander Poēta.*

Quōmodo saepe fallātur hominum iūdicium.

Dēmētrius, quī dictus est Phalēreus,
Athēnās occupāvit imperiō improbō,
Ut mōs est volgī, passim et certātim ruit
'Fēlīciter!' succlāmāns. Ipsī prīncipēs
Illam ōsculantur, quā sunt oppressī, manum,
Tacitē gementēs trīstem fōrtūnae vicem.
Quīn etiam residēs et sequentēs ōtium,
Nē dēfuisse noceat, rēpunt ūltimī;
In quīs Menander, nōbilis cōmoediīs,
Quās ipsum īgnōrāns lēgerat Dēmētrius
Et admīrātus fuerat ingenium virī,

ĪDEM POĒTA, 8. *fūcātae:* 'counterfeit.'

I, 8. *rēpunt:* 'creep.'

Unguentō dēlibūtus, vestītū fluēns,
Veniēbat gressū dēlicātō et languidō.
Hunc ubi tyrannus vīdit extrēmō āgmine:
'Quisnam cinaedus ille in cōnspectum meum
Audet venīre?' Respondērunt proximī:
'Hīc est Menander scrīptor.' Mūtātus statim:
'Homō,' inquit, 'fierī nōn potest fōrmōsior.'

II. *Viātōrēs et Latrō.*

Duo cum incidissent in latrōnem mīlitēs,
Ūnus profūgit, alter autem restitit
Et vindicāvit sēsē fortī dexterā.
Latrōne occīsō timidus accurrit comes
Stringitque gladium, dein reiectā paenulā:
'Cedo,' inquit, 'illum; iam curābō sentiat,
Quōs attemptārit.' Tunc, quī dēpūgnāverat:
'Vellem istīs verbīs saltem adiūvissēs modo;
Cōnstantior fuissem vēra exīstimāns.
Nunc conde ferrum et linguam pariter fūtilem,
Ut possīs aliōs īgnōrantēs fallere.
Ego, quī sum expertus, quantīs fugiās vīribus,
Scio, quam virtūtī nōn sit crēdendum tuae.'
Illī adsīgnārī dēbet haec nārrātiō,
Quī rē secundā fortis est, dubiā fugāx.

III. *Calvus et Mūsca.*

Calvī momordit mūsca nūdātum caput;
Quam opprimere captāns alapam sibi dūxit gravem.
Tunc illa inrīdēns: 'Pūnctum volucris parvulae

15. *cinaedus*: 'dandy,' 'fop.' II, 5. *paenulā*: 'mantle.'

Voluistī morte ulcīscī; quid faciēs tibi,
Iniūriae quī addideris contumēliam?'
Respondit: 'Mēcum facile redeō in grātiam,
Quia nōn fuisse mentem laedendī sciō.
Sed tē, contemptī generis animal improbum,
Quae dēlēctāris bibere hūmānum sanguinem,
Optem necāre vel māiōre incommodō.'
Hōc argūmentum veniā dōnārī docet,
Quī cāsū peccat. Nam quī cōnsiliō est nocēns,
Illum esse quāvīs dignum poenā iūdicō.

IV. *Asinus et Porcellus.*

Quīdam immolāsset verrem cum sānctō Herculī,
Cui prō salūte vōtum dēbēbat suā,
Asellō iussit reliquiās pōnī hordeī.
Quās āspernātus ille sīc locūtus est:
'Libenter istum prōrsus appeterem cibum,
Nisi, quī nūtrītus illō est, iugulātus foret.'
Hūius respectū fābulae dēterritus
Perīculōsum semper vītāvī lucrum.
Sed dīcis: 'Quī rapuēre dīvitiās, habent.'
Numerēmus agedum, quī dēprēnsī perierunt.
Māiōrem turbam pūnītōrum reperiēs.
Paucīs temeritās est bonō, multīs malō.

V. *Scurra et Rūsticus.*

Prāvō favōre lābī mortālēs solent.
Et, prō iūdiciō dum stant errōris suī,
Ad paenitendum rēbus manifestīs agī.

IV, 1. *verrem:* 'pig.' V. *Scurra:* 'jester.'

Factūrus lūdōs quīdam dīves nōbilēs
Prōpositō cūnctōs invītāvit praemiō,
Quam quisque posset ut novitātem ostenderet.
Vēnēre artificēs laudis ad certāmina;
Quōs inter scurra, nōtus urbānō sale,
Habēre dīxit sē genus spectāculī,
Quod in theātrō numquam prōlātum foret.
Dīspersus rūmor cīvitātem concitat.
Paulō ante vacua turbam dēficiunt loca.
In scaenā vērō postquam sōlus cōnstitit
Sine apparātū, nūllīs adiūtōribus,
Silentium ipsa fēcit exspectātiō.
Ille in sinum repente dēmīsit caput
Et sīc porcellī vōcem est imitātus suā,
Vērum ut subesse palliō contenderent
Et excutī iubērent. Quō factō simul
Nihil est repertum, multīs onerant laudibus
Hominemque plausū prōsequuntur māximō.
Hōc vīdit fierī rūsticus. 'Nōn mehercule
Mē vincet,' inquit; et statim professus est
Idem factūrum melius sē postrīdiē.
Fit turba māior. Iam favor mentēs tenet
Et dērīsūrī, nōn spectātūrī, sedent.
Uterque prōdit. Scurra dēgrunnit prior
Movetque plausūs et clāmōrēs suscitat.
Tunc simulāns sēsē vestīmentīs rūsticus
Porcellum obtegere, — quod faciēbat scīlicet,
Sed, in priōre quia nīl compererant, latēns —
Pervellit aurem vērō, quem cēlāverat,
Et cum dolōre vōcem nātūrae exprimit.

32. *pervellit*: 'pulled.'

Adclāmat populus scurram multō similius
Imitātum, et cōgit rūsticum trūdī forās.
At ille prōfert ipsum porcellum ē sinū,
Turpemque apertō pignore errōrem probāns:
'Ēn hīc dēclārat, quālēs sītis iūdicēs!'

VI. *Calvus et Quīdam Aequē Pilīs Dēfectus.*

Invēnit calvus fōrte in triviō pectinem.
Accessit alter, aequē dēfectus pilīs.
'Hēia!' inquit, 'in commūne quodcumque est lucrī.'
Ostendit ille praedam et adiēcit simul:
'Superūm voluntās fāvit; sed fātō invidō
Carbōnem, ut āiunt, prō thēsaurō invēnimus.'
Quem spēs dēlūsit, huic querella convenit.

VII. *Prīnceps Tībīcen.*

Ubi vānus animus aurā captus frīvolā
Adripuit īnsolentem sibi fīdūciam,
Facile ad dērīsum stulta levitās dūcitur.
Prīnceps tībīcen nōtior paulō fuit,
Operam Bathyllō solitus in scaenā dare.
Is fōrte lūdīs — nōn satis meminī quibus —
Dum pēgma rapitur, concidit cāsū gravī
Nec opīnāns, et sinistram frēgit tībiam,
Duās cum dextrās māluisset perdere.
Inter manūs sublātus et multum gemēns
Domum refertur. Aliquot mēnsēs trānseunt,
Ad sānitātem dum venit curātiō.

VI, 1. *pectinem:* 'comb.' 7. *pēgma:* 'stage machinery.'
VII. *Prīnceps:* a proper name.

Ut spectātōrum mōs est, id lepidum genus
Dēsīderāre coepit, cūius flātibus
Solēbat excitārī saltantis vigor.
  Erat factūrus lūdōs quīdam nōbilis.
Ut incipiēbat ingredī Prīnceps, eum
Addūcit pretiō precibus, ut tantum modo
Ipsō lūdōrum ostenderet sēsē diē,
Quī simul advēnit, rūmor dē tībīcine
Fremit in theātrō. Quīdam adfīrmant mortuum,
Quīdam in cōnspectum prōditūrum sine morā.
Aulaeō mīssō, dēvolūtīs tonitribus
Dī sunt locūtī mōre trānslātīciō.
Tunc chorus īgnōtum modo reductō canticum
Īnsonuit, cūius haec fuit sententia:
'Laetāre, incolumis Rōma, salvō Prīncipe!'
In plausūs cōnsurrēctum est. Iactat bāsia
Tībīcen; grātulārī fautōrēs putat.
Equester ōrdō stultum errōrem intellegit
Māgnōque rīsū canticum repetī iubet.
Iterātur illud. Homo meus sē in pulpitō
Tōtum prōsternit. Plaudit inlūdēns eques.
Rogāre populus hunc corōnam exīstimat.
Ut vērō cuneīs nōtuit rēs omnibus,
Prīnceps, ligātō crūre niveā fasciā,
Niveīsque tunicīs, niveīs etiam calceīs,
Superbiēns honōre dīvīnae domūs,
Ab ūniversīs capite est prōtrūsus forās.

13. *lepidum:* 'charming.'
24. *trānslātīciō:* 'traditional.'
28. *bāsia:* 'kisses.'
29. *fautōrēs:* 'applauders.'
32. *homo*, cf. IV, 21, 27.

VIII. *Tempus.*

Cursū volucrī, pendēns in novāculā,
Calvus, comōsā frōnte, nūdō occipitiō,
— Quem sī occupāris, teneās; ēlapsum semel
Nōn ipse possit Iuppiter reprehendere, —
Occāsiōnem rērum significat brevem.
Effectūs impedīret nē sēgnis mora,
Finxēre antīquī tālem effigiem Temporis.

IX. *Taurus et Vitulus.*

Angustō in aditū taurus lūctāns cornibus
Cum vix intrāre posset ad praesaepia,
Mōnstrābat vitulus quō sē pactō flecteret.
'Tacē,' inquit, 'ante hōc nōvī, quam tū nātus es.'
Quī doctiōrem ēmendat, sibi dīcī putet.

X. *Canis et Sūs et Vēnātor.*

Adversus omnēs fortis vēlōcēs ferās
Canis cum dominō semper fēcisset satis,
Languēre coepit annīs ingravantibus.
Aliquandō obiectus hīspidī pūgnae suis
Adripuit aurem; sed cariōsīs dentibus
Praedam dīmīsit. Hīc tunc vēnātor dolēns
Canem obiūrgābat. Cui senex contrā Lacōn:
'Nōn tē dēstituit animus, sed vīrēs meae.
Quod fuimus, laudā, sī iam damnās, quod sumus.'
Hōc cūr, Philēte, scrīpserim, pulchrē vidēs.

VIII, 1. *novāculā:* 'razor edge.'
IX, *Vitulus:* 'a calf.'
X, 4. *hīspidī:* 'bristly.'
5. *cariōsīs:* 'decayed.'

APPENDIX.

FĀBULAE NOVAE.

I. (II.) *Auctor.*

Nōn esse plūs aequō petendum.

Arbitriō sī nātūra finxisset meō
Genus mortāle, longē foret īnstrūctius:
Nam cūncta nōbīs attribuisset commoda,
Quaecumque indulgēns Fōrtūna animālī dedit:
Elephantī vīrēs, et leōnis impetum,
Cornīcis aevum, glōriam taurī trucis,
Equī vēlōcis placidam mānsuētūdinem,
Et adesset hominī sua tamen sollertia.
Nīmīrum in caelō sēcum rīdet Iuppiter,
Māgnō haec cōnsiliō quī negāvit hominibus,
Nē scēptrum mundī raperet nostra audācia.
Ergō contentī mūnere invīctī Iovis
Fātālis annōs dēcurrāmus temporis,
Nec plūs cōnēmur quam sinit mortālitās.

II. (IV.) *Promētheus et Dolus.*

Dē vēritāte et mendāciō.

Ōlim Promētheus saeculī figulus novī
Cūrā subtīlī Vēritātem fēcerat,
Ut iūra posset inter hominēs reddere.

II, 1. *figulus*: 'potter,' 'maker.'

Subitō accersītus nūntiō māgnī Iovis
Commendat officīnam fallācī Dolō,
In disciplīnam nūper quem recēperat.
Hīc studiō accēnsus, faciē simulācrum parī
Ūnā statūrā, simile et membrīs omnibus,
Dum tempus habuit, callidā finxit manū.
Quod prope iam tōtum mīrē cum positum foret,
Lutum ad faciendōs illī dēfēcit pedēs.
Redīt magister, quō festīnanter Dolus
Metū turbātus in suō sēdit locō.
Mīrāns Promētheus tantam similitūdinem,
Propriae vidērī voluit artis glōriam.
Igitur fornācī pariter duo sīgna intulit;
Quibus percoctīs atque īnfūsō spīritū,
Modestō gressū sāncta incessit Vēritās;
At trunca speciēs haesit in vestīgiō.
Tunc falsa imāgō atque operis fūrtīvī labor
Mendācium appellātum est; quod negantibus
Pedēs habēre facilis est cōnsēnsiō.
Simulāta interdum vitia prōsunt hominibus,
Sed tempore ipsō tamen appāret vēritās.

III. (V.) *Auctor.*

Sēnsum aestimandum esse, nōn verba.

Ixīōn quod versārī nārrātur rotā,
Volūbilem Fōrtūnam iactārī docet.
Adversus altōs Sīsyphus mōntēs agēns
Saxum labōre summō, quod dē vertice
Sūdōre semper inritō revolvitur,

11. *lutum*: 'clay.'

Ostendit hominum sine fīne esse miseriās.
Quod stāns in amne Tantalus mediō sitit,
Avārī dēscrībuntur, quōs circumfluit
Ūsus bonōrum, sed nīl possunt tangere.
Ūrnīs scelestae Danaides portant aquās,
Pertūsa nec complēre possunt dōlia;
Immō, lūxuriae quicquid dederis, perfluet.
Novem porrēctus Tityos est per iūgera,
Trīstī renātum suggerēns poenae iecur;
Quō quis māiōrem possidet terrae locum,
Hōc dēmōnstrātur cūrā graviōre adficī.
Cōnsultō involvit vēritātem antīquitās,
Ut sapiēns intellegeret, errāret rudis.

IV. (VI.) *Auctor.*

Ūtilius nōbīs quid sit dīc, Phoebe, obsecrō,
Quī Delphōs et fōrmōsum Parnāsum incolis.
Quid est? sacrātae vātis horrēscunt comae,
Tripodēs moventur, mūgit adytīs Religiō,
Tremuntque laurī et ipse pallēscit diēs.
Vōcēs resolvit icta Pȳtho nūmine:
'Audīte gentēs Dēliī monitūs deī:
Pietātem colite; vōta superīs reddite;
Patriam, parentēs nātōs, castās coniugēs
Dēfendite armīs, hostem ferrō pellite;
Amīcōs sublevāte; miserīs parcite;
Bonīs favēte, subdolīs īte obviam;
Dēlīcta vindicāte; cohibēte impiōs;
Pūnīte turpī thalamōs quī violant stuprō;

III, 11. *pertūsa*: 'perforated.'

Malōs cavēte; nūllī nimium crēdite.'
Haec ēlocūta concidit virgō furēns;
Furēns profectō, nam quae dīxit perdidit.

V. (VII.) *Aesōpus et Scrīptor.*

Aesōpō quīdam scrīpta recitārat mala,
In quīs ineptē multum sē iactāverat.
Scīre ergō cupiēns quidnam sentīret senex,
'Numquid tibi,' inquit, 'vīsus sum superbior?'
Haud vāna nōbīs ingenī fīdūcia est.
Cōnfectus ille pessimō volūmine:
'Ego,' inquit, 'quod tē laudās vehementer probō,
Namque hōc ab aliō numquam continget tibi.'

VI. (VIII.) *Pompēius Māgnus et Ēius Mīles.*

Quam difficile sit hominem nōsse.

Māgnī Pompēī mīles vāstī corporis
Frāctē loquendō et ambulandō molliter
Fāmam cinaedī trāxerat certissimam.
Hīc īnsidiātus nocte iūmentīs ducis,
Cum veste et aurō et māgnō argentī pondere
Āvertit mūlōs. Factum rūmor dissipat;
Arguitur mīles, rapitur in praetōrium.
Tum Māgnus: 'Quid?' ait, 'tūne mē, commīlitō,
Spoliāre es ausus?' Ille continuō exscreat
Sibi in sinistram et spūtum digitīs dissipat.
'Sīc, imperātor, oculī exstīllēscant meī,
Sī vīdī aut tetigī.' Tum vir animī simplicis
Id dēdecus castrōrum prōpellī iubet,

VI, 9. *exscreat:* 'spits.' 11. *exstillēscant:* 'fly out.'

Nec cadere in illum crēdit tantam audāciam.
Breve tempus intercessit, et fidēns manū
Ūnum ē Rōmānīs prōvocābat barbarus.
Sibi quisque metuit; prīmī quīn mussant ducēs.
Tandem cinaedus habitū, sed Mars vīribus,
Adit sedentem prō tribūnālī ducem,
Et vōce mollī: 'Licet?' Enimvērō ēicī
Virum ut in rē atrōcī Māgnus stomachāns imperat.
Tum quīdam senior ex amīcīs prīncipis:
'Hunc ego committī satius Fōrtūnae arbitror,
In quō iactūra levis est, quam fortem virum,
Quī cāsū vīctus temeritātis tē arguat.'
Adsēnsit Māgnus et permīsit mīlitī
Prōdīre contrā; quī mīrante exercitū,
Dictō celerius hostis abscīdit caput
Victorque rediit. Hīs tunc Pompēius super:
'Corōnā, mīles, equidem tē dōnō libēns,
Quod vindicāstī laudem Rōmānī imperī;
Sed exstillēscant oculī sīc,' inquit, 'meī,'
Turpe illud imitāns iūs iūrandum mīlitis,
'Nisi tū abstulistī sarcinās nuper meās.'

VII. (X.) *Paterfamiliās et Aesōpus.*

Quōmodo domanda sit ferōx iuventūs.

Paterfamiliās saevum habēbat fīlium.
Hīc ē cōnspectū cum patris recesserat,
Verberibus servōs adficiēbat plūrimīs
Et exercēbat fervidam adulēscentiam.
Aesōpus ergō nārrat hōc breviter senī:
"Quīdam iuvencō vetulum adiungēbat bovem.
Is cum refugiēns imparī collō iugum

Aetātis excūsāret vīrēs languidās:
'Nōn est quod timeās,' inquit illī rūsticus;
'Nōn ut labōrēs faciō, sed ut istum domēs,
Quī calce et cornū multōs reddit dēbilēs.'
Et tū nisi idtum tēcum adsiduē dētinēs
Ferōxque ingenium comprimis clēmentiā,
Vide, nē querella māior accrēscat domūs."
Atrōcitātī mānsuētūdō est remedium.

VIII. (XI.) *Aesōpus et Victor Gymnicus.*

Quōmodo comprimātur aliquandō iactantia.

Victōrem fōrte gymnicī certāminis
Iactantiōrem cum vīdisset Phryx sophus,
Interrogāvit, an plūs adversārius
Valuisset ēius? Ille: 'Nē istud dīxeris;
Multō fuēre vīrēs māiōrēs meae.'
'Quod,' inquit, 'ergō, stulte, meruistī decus,
Minus valentem sī vīcistī fortior?
Ferendus essēs, fōrte sī tē dīcerēs
Superāsse, melior quī fuisset vīribus.'

IX. (XII.) *Asinus ad Lyram.*

Asinus iacentem vīdit in prātō lyram.
Accessit et temptāvit chordās ungulā;
Sonuēre tāctae. 'Bella rēs, sed meherculēs
Male cessit,' inquit, 'artis quia sum nēscius.
Sī repperisset aliquis hanc prūdentior,
Dīvīnīs aurēs oblectāsset cantibus.'
Sīc saepe ingenia calamitāte intercidunt.

VII, 14. *vide*: see note to III, 6, 3. IX, 3. *bella*: 'charming.'

X. (XIV.) *Duo Iuvenēs Spōnsī Dīves et Pauper.*

Fōrtūnam interdum praeter spem hominibus favēre.

Ūnam expetēbant virginem iuvenēs duo;
Vīcit locuplēs genus et fōrmam pauperis.
Ut nūptiārum dictus advēnit diēs,
Amāns dolōrem quia nōn poterat perpetī,
Maerēns propīnquōs contulit sē in hortulōs,
Quōs ūltrā paulō villa dītis splendida
Erat acceptūra virginem ē mātris sinū,
Parum ampla in urbe vīsa quod fuerat domus.
Pompa explicātur, turba concurrit frequēns,
Et coniugālem praebet Hymenaeus facem.
Asellus autem, quī solēbat pauperī
Quaestum dēferre, stābat portae in līmine.
Illum puellae cāsū condūcunt suae,
Viae labōrēs tenerōs nē laedant pedēs.
Repente caelum, Veneris misericordiā,
Ventīs movētur, intonat mundī fragor
Noctemque dēnsīs horridam nimbīs parat;
Lūx rapitur oculīs et simul vīs grandinis
Effūsa trepidōs passim comitēs dissipat,
Sibi quemque cōgēns petere praesidium fugā.
Asellus nōtum proximum tēctum subit
Et vōce māgnā sēsē vēnisse indicat.
Prōcurrunt puerī, pulchram aspiciunt virginem
Et admīrantur; deinde dominō nūntiant.
Inter sodālēs ille paucōs accubāns
Amōrem crēbrīs āvocābat pōculīs.
Ubi nūntiātum est, recreātus gaudiīs
Hortante Bacchō et Venere, dulcēs perficit

Aequālitātis inter plausūs nūptiās.
Quaerunt parentēs per praecōnem fīliam;
Novus marītus coniuge āmissā dolet.
Quid esset āctum postquam populō innōtuit,
Omnēs favōrem comprobārunt caelitum.

XI. (XVI.) *Gallus Lectīcā ā Fēlibus Vēctus.*

Nimiam sēcūritātem saepe in perīculum hominēs dūcere.

Fēlēs habēbat gallus lectīcāriōs.
Hunc glōriōsum volpēs ut vīdit vehī,
Sīc est locūta: 'Moneō praecaveās dolum;
Istōrum vultūs namque sī cōnsīderās,
Praedam portāre iūdicēs, nōn sarcinam.'

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Postquam ēsurīre coepit saeva societās,
Discerpsit dominum et fēcit partēs facinoris.

XII. (XVII.) *Aesōpus et Servus Profugus.*

Nōn esse malō addendum malum.

Servus profugiēns dominum nātūrae asperae,
Aesōpō occurrit nōtus ē vīcīniā.
'Quid tū cōnfūsus?' 'Dīcam tibi clārē, pater,
Hōc namque es dignus appellārī nōmine,
Tūtō querella quia apud tē dēpōnitur.
Plāgae supersunt, dēsunt mihi cibāria;
Subinde ad vīllam mittor sine viāticō.
Domī sī cēnat, tōtīs perstō noctibus,
Sīve est vocātus, iaceō ad lūcem in sēmitā.

XI. *Lectīcā*: 'litter.'

1. *lectīcāriōs*: 'litter bearers.'

Emeruī lībērtātem, cānus serviō.
Ūllīus essem culpae mihi sī cōnscius,
Aequō animō ferrem; numquam sum factus satur
Et super īnfēlīx saevum patior dominium.
Hās propter causās et quās longum est prōmere,
Abīre dēstināvī, quō tulerint pedēs.'
'Ergō,' inquit, 'audī: cum malī nīl fēceris,
Haec experīris, ut refers, incommoda;
Quid sī peccāris? quae tē passūrum putās?'
Tālī cōnsiliō est ā fugā dēterritus.

XIII. (XIX.) *Equus Quadrigālis in Pīstrīnum Vēnumdatus.*

Ferendum esse aequō animō, quicquid acciderit.

Equum ē quadrīgā multīs palmīs nōbilem
Abēgit quīdam et in pīstrīnum vēndidit.
Prōductus ad bibendum cum foret ā molīs,
In circum aequālēs īre cōnspēxit suōs,
Ut grāta lūdīs redderent certāmina.
Lacrimīs obortīs: 'Īte fēlīcēs,' ait,
'Celebrāte sine mē cursū sollemnem diem;
Ego quō scelesta fūris attrāxit manus,
Ibi sōrte trīstī fāta dēflēbō mea.'

XIV. (XX.) *Ursus Ēsuriēns.*

Sī quandō in silvīs ursō dēsunt cōpiae,
Scopulōsum ad lītus currit et prendēns petram
Pilōsa crūra sēnsim dēmittit vadō;
Quōrum inter villōs cancrī simul ut haeserunt,

XIV, 3. *pilōsa:* 'shaggy.' 4. *villōs:* 'tufts.'

In terram adripiēns excutit praedam maris
Ēscāque fruitur passim conlēctā vafer.
Ergō etiam stultīs acuit ingenium famēs.

XV. (XXI.) *Viātor et Corvus.*

Verbīs saepe numerō hominēs dēcipī solēre.

Quīdam per agrōs dēvium carpēns iter
AvĒ exaudīvit et morātus paululum,
Adesse ut vīdit nēminem, cēpit gradum.
Iterum salūtat īdem ex occultō sonus.
Vōce hospitālī cōnfīrmātus restitit,
Ut, quisquis esset, pār officium reciperet.
Cum circumspectāns errōre haesisset diū
Et perdidisset tempus aliquot mīlium,
Ostendit sēsē corvus et supervolāns
AvĒ usque ingessit. Tum sē lūsum intellegēns:
'At male tibī sit,' inquit, 'āles pessime,
Quī festīnantis sīc dētinuistī pedēs.'

XVI. (XXII.) *Pāstor et Capella.*

Nīl occultum esse, quod nōn revēlētur.

Pāstor capellae cornū baculō frēgerat;
Rogāre coepit, nē sē dominō prōderet.
'Quamvīs indignē laesa, reticēbō tamen;
Sed rēs clāmābit ipsa, quid dēlīqueris.'

6. *vafer*: 'sly beast.'

XVII. (XXIII.) *Serpēns et Lacerta.*

Ubi leōnis pellis dēficit, volpīnam induendam esse, hōc est, ubi dēficiunt vīrēs, astū ūtendum.

Serpēns lacertam fōrte adversam prenderat;
Quam dēvorāre patulā cum vellet gulā,
Adripuit illa prope iacentem sūrculum,
Et pertinācī morsū trānsversum tenēns,
Avidum sollertī rictum frēnāvit morā.
Praedam dīmīsit ōre serpēns inritam.

XVIII. (XXIV.) *Cornīx et Ovis.*

Multōs lacēssere dēbilēs et cēdere fortibus.

Odiōsa cornīx super ovem cōnsēderat;
Quam dorsō cum tulisset invīta et diū:
'Hōc,' inquit, 'sī dentātō fēcissēs canī,
Poenās dedissēs.' Illa contrā pessima:
'Dēspiciō inermēs, eadem cēdō fortibus;
Scio quem lacēssam, cui dolōsa blandiar;
Ideō senectam mīlle in annōs prōrogō.'

XIX. (XXVI.) *Lepus et Bubulcus.*

Multōs verbīs blandōs esse et pectore īnfidēlēs.

Cum vēnātōrem celeripēs fugeret lepus,
Et ā bubulcō vīsus veprem inrēperet:
'Per superōs ōrō perque spēs omnēs tuās,
Nē mē indicēs, bubulce; nihil umquam malī

XVII. *Lacerta:* 'lizard.'
2. *patulā:* 'wide open.'
3. *sūrculum:* 'twig.'
5. *rictum:* 'mouth.'

Huic agrō fēcī.' At rūsticus: 'Nē timueris;
Latē sēcūrus.' Iamque vēnātor sequēns:
'Quaesō, bubulce, numquid hūc vēnit lepus?'
'Vēnit, sed abiit hāc ad laevam;' et dexteram
Dēmōnstrat nūtū partem. Vēnātor citus
Nōn intellēxit sēque ē cōnspectū abstulit.
Tunc sīc bubulcus: 'Ecquid est grātum tibi,
Quod tē cēlāvī?' 'Linguae prōrsus nōn negō
Habēre atque agere māximās mē grātiās;
Vērum oculīs ut prīvēris optō perfidīs.'

XX. (XXIX.) *Pāpiliō et Vespa.*

Nōn praeteritam sed praesentem aspiciendam esse fōrtūnam.

Pāpiliō vespam praetervolitāns vīderat.
'Ō sortem inīquam! dum vīvēbant corpora,
Quōrum ex reliquiīs animam nōs accēpimus,
Ego ēloquēns in pāce, fortis proeliīs,
Arte omnī prīnceps inter aequālēs fuī.
Ēn cūncta! levitās putris et volitō cinis!
Tū quī fuistī mūlus clītellārius,
Quemcumque vīsum est laedis īnfīxō aculeō.'
At vespa dignam mōribus vōcem ēdidit:
'Nōn quī fuerimus, sed quī nunc sīmus, vidē.'

XXI. (XXX.) *Terraneōla et Volpēs.*

Prāvīs nōn esse fidem adhibendam.

Avis, quam dīcunt terraneōlam rūsticī,
In terrā nīdum quia compōnit scīlicet,

XX, 1. *pāpiliō:* 'butter-fly.'
7. *mūlus clītellārius:* 'pack-mule.'
8. *aculeō:* 'sting.'
XXI. *Terraneōla:* 'ground swallow.'

Fōrte occucurrit improbae volpēculae ;
Quā vīsā, pennīs altius sē sustulit.
'Salvē,' inquit illa, 'cūr mē fūgistī, obsecrō?
Quasi nōn abundē sit mihi in prātō cibus,
Grillī, scarabaeī, lōcustārum cōpia ;
Nihil est, quod metuās, ego tē multum dīligō
Propter quiētōs mōrēs et vītam probam.'
Respondit contrā : 'Tū quidem bene praedicās ;
In campō nōn sum, sed sub dīō, pār tibi.
Quīn sequere ; tibi salūtem committō meam.'

Epilogus.

Hōc quālecumque est Mūsa quod lūdit mea,
Nēquitia pariter laudat et frūgālitās,
Sed haec simpliciter ; illa tacitē īrāscitur.

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7. *grillī* : 'crickets.'
7. *scarabaeī* : 'beetles.'
7. *lōcustārum*, not, as regularly, *locustārum*.